KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's military ruler Owner Hassan Al Bashir has urged his countrymen to rise above their differences and build their nation - a vast and impoverished country of 25 million people, torn by eight pears of civil war. "Forget your differences and concentrate on building the nation under the umbrells of the popular congresses' system," he told 1,636 delegates attending the closing session on Friday night of a national political conference. The conference, which opened on Tuesday, was convened by Bashir's 13-man ruling body to map out Sudan's political fasture. His call for unity, followed the rejection of his recent offer of reconciliation by political opponents based abroad. Official media reports in Khartoum said the conference recommended that the next president of sended that the next president of the country should be directly elected and that popular congresses should be set up at all levels — villages, provinces, states and nationwide. The one on national level should act as the country's parliament which, ing to Mohammad Al Amin Khalifs of the raking council would formulate domestic and foreign policies.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تايمز يومية سياشية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة المنحفة الأردنية والرايء

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 rivals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Madani says be won't run for Algerian elections

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — The head of the Islamic Salvation Front, Algeria's leading fundamentalist movement, said he will not be a candidate in June legislative elections, the daily Horizons quoted him

Saturday as saying. In an interview with the paper, Abassi Madami reiterated his threat to call a general strike if the recently enacted election law is not repealed. He also renewed his call for a presidential election "the same day or before" the June 27 legislative elections. President Chadii Benjedid was reelected in 1988 to a five-year term. The legislative

elections are largely viewed as a contest between the Islamic Salvation

Front and the ruling National Liberation Front, which has held all

parliamentary seats since Algeria gained independence from France in 1962. The Islamic Salvation Front prevailed in municipal and regional elections last June, the first multiparty voting here. Madani said his group would not make an alliance with the less powerful Movement for an Islamic Society, saying his rival, Sheikh Mahfoudh Nahnah, was "Chadli Benjedid's man," Horizons wrote.

Cheney to visit Gulf

Volume 16 Number 4691

WASHINGTON (AP) - U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney will travel to the Gulf on Sunday for postwar security talks with government leaders in Saudi Arabia and five other Gulf states, the Pentagon said Friday. It will be Cheney's first visit to the region since the end of the Gulf war. The Pentagon announcement said Chency would meet with government officials in Kuwait. Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates in addition to Saudi Arabia. All the Arabian peninsula states sided with the U.S-led coalition against Iraq. The announcement gave no other details, but Cheney is expected to attempt to clinch agreements on a Gulf location for a forward headquarters for the Florida-based U.S. Central Command, which

Most U.S. weapons still in Gulf

during the war.

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WASHINGTON (AP) -- Only a quarter of the tanks, artillery and other beavy equipment U.S. ground forces used to pusb Iraq out of Kuwait bave been shipped home because the Pentagon hasn't decided what material - if any - should be left behind, Pentagon sources say. Senior military officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, say the movement of the arms depends on reaching a series of complex, sensitive agreements with various Gulf states on their security needs. High-level discussions among top Pentagon officials and leaders of the Gulf states are expected to answer the question of whether some of the material might be left behind or sold to allies in the region. No formal pacts have been reached. In the meantime, the U.S. military has been gathering its hardware at major depot storage points, such as in the vicinity of King Khalid military city in northern Saudi Arabia.

Khamenel CIA agent --- iraqi paper

NICOSIA (R) — A Baghdad newspaper said on Saturday that anti-Iraqi statements by Iran's supreme leader Ayatoliah Ali Khamenei showed he was a puppet of the United States controlled by the Central Intelligence Agency. The official Iraqi news agency quoted the government daily Al Iraq as describing the Iranian leadership as "America's men" and referred to Khamenei by name, saying: "Under his turban . lie black thoughts, wicked intentions and evil plans that serve no one but his masters in Washington, particularly the CIA." The strongly worded commentary came in response to Khamenei's May Day speech in which he called President Saddam Hussein a humiliated dictator who awarded himself a medal for "shedding rivers of blood" of his own people.

Iraqi charged in killing of Turks

ANKARA (R) - An Iraqi security guard faces the death penalty after being formally charged in the shooting deaths of two Turkish demonstrators during an April 5 protest outside Baghdad's Istanbul consulate. Anatolian news agency said on Saturday that the prosecutor's indictment of Ayad Faik Taha said bullets taken from the bodies of the dead env in service men came from a Klashnikov rifle which the consulate handed over to police with Taha on April 25. The agency gave no date for the first hearing of the case. Taha did not have diplomatic immunity.

Bush will T ton Ches Syria, Lebanon to en Elizabet temon, en e restore telephone 1 10 mg

18:03 Carre e United State DAMASCUS (R) — Syria and Piesiden Spi Lebanon plan to restore direct ure hillian de telephone dialing, severed as a sing the wife result of Lebanon's 16 year civil war, from next month, officials said on Saturday. "Agreement Kumal a fit was reached (at recent talks) on in a statement restoring direct telephone dialing between Syris and Lebanon at the begining of June and that a joint technical committee to be S Amitisati i, tormer bro fatgarri Mil formed to follow up the process," (argant) to some official said.

Prime Minister meets PLO team for joint efforts on peace process

AMMAN SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1991, SHAWAL 21, 1411

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials arrived in Amman on Saturday and went into talks with Prime Minister Mudar Badran to coordinate a joint position to-wards the U.S.-initiated Middle East peace process.

A senior PLO official later said that the organisation was seeking a meeting for the five form line states — in addition to Jordan and the PLO, Syria, Egypt and Lebanon - to coordinate a unified Arab negotiating position.
"I believe that our brothers in

Jordan share the same objective," PLO executive member Yasser Abed Rabo told Jordan Television following the meeting.

Palestinian officials in Amman said the delegation was also preparing the ground for a visit by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to Jordan amid reports that the U.S. is promoting a peace process involving talks between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian

Troubleshooter Mahmond Abbass, who is heading the visiting delegation which includes, besides Mr. Abed Rabo, executive committee member Suleiman Najab, arrived here after a brief fence-mending mission to Cairo.

The date of Mr. Arafat's arrival in Jordan was not disclosed but he was expected to confer with His Majesty King Hussein prior to the King's expected visit to Washington in a few weeks' time.

The decision to strengthen political coordination with Jordan according to Palestinian officials, is crucial to the organisation's diplomatic move to block American attempts to mare ise its role and "bypass" the Palestinian people's right to selfdetermination

The PLO's Central Council (PCC), which convened in Tenis on April 21, has rejected the U.S.-advocated regional conference or any negotiating forum, unless it was sponsored by the United Nations.

The PCC, however, has given Mr. Arafat the green light to show flexibility towards the peace process, as long as he adheres to the main elements of the PLO's for the setting up of an indepen-dent Palestinian state alongside Israel, the sources said.

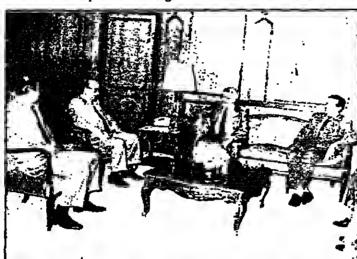
Reports from Washington last week suggested that the U.S. was abandoning its two-pronged approach involving Arab-Israeli talks parallel to Palestinian-Israeli talks in a process involving

Jordanian-Palestinian team.

Washington has so far refused to recognise the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and is seeking Palestinian representatives who are non-PLO members from the

Israeli negotiations with a joint

(Continued on page 5)



Prime Minister Mudar Badran (second left) receives PLO Ruccative Committee members Malamoud Abbast (second right) and Yatuer Abed Rabbs (right). Attending the talks is Foreign Minister Taher Al Maeri (Petra photo).

EC deplores new Israeli settlements

- The European Community Saturday deplored new Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territoties, regarding them as "especially-harmful at a time when all parties should toility and realism."

The 12 EC member states said in a press release they "are gravely concerned at the recent establishment of two new Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. at Revava on April 15 and 16 and at Talmon Keva on April 22."

They deplored the fact that the Israeli government had given permission for these settlements and reaffirmed their long-standing position that "Jewish settlements in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including East

BRUSSELS, Belgium (Agencies) Jerusalem, are illegal under international law and under the 4th Geneva Convention in particu-

> The EC added that "the initiative of the American secretary of state, Mr. Baker, now offers genuine prospects of progress towards peace in the region.

> They said they 'fully support this initiative and the process envisaged, which should enable the necessary dialogue between the parties concerned to get

> "They also consider that any establishment of new settlements in the occupied territories, which is in any case illegal, is especially harmful at a time when all parties

(Continued on page 5)

Dumas says ties with Iran improving; Velayati calls for hostage release

TEHRAN, Iran (Agencies) — France and Iran on Saturday reported progress in efforts to settle a \$1 billion financial dispute that had strained relations between the two countries for more than a decade.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ah Akhar Velayati said that he expected the two sides to reach an agreement on the matter before the conclusion of a visit to Iran by French Foreign Minister Roland

Dumas, who arrived Friday. has held two rounds of official talks with Velayati. On Saturday, he also met with President Hashemi Rafsanjani and delivered to him a letter from French President Francois Mitterrand.

The Islamic republic news agency did not provide contents of the letter. But it quoted Rafsanjani as criticising the U.S. role in the Gulf after the liberation of

IRNA quoted Rafsanjani as telling Dumas the United States was trying to "monopolize power in the region through its aggressive policies.

Rafsanjani also told Dumas that the problems rising from the influx of more than one million Iraqi refugees were "disastrous" for Iran. He said Iran was spending \$15 million dollars a day on these refugees.

And Velayati called for the release of all hostages and said countries with any influence should help to free them.

Velayati, speaking at a joint news conference in Tehran with Dumas, said anyone detained against their will should be re-

"All hostages should be released from Lebanon or other countries," Velayati told the news conference broadcast by Visnews television news agency.

"Those innocent people who have been taken as hostages or have been detained against their will... have to be released regardless of who they or from which country they are.

Six Americans, three Britons. two Germans and an Italian are believed held in Lebanon

"All countries that directly or indirectly have some influence among those countries or groups which can help for the release of hostages... have to use their influence." Velayari said.

Last month he urged the United States and Britain to help 10 free hundreds of Arabs detained in Israel and Lebanon

Iraq seeks to resume trade through

By Jamai Halaby The Associated Press

Jordan

AMMAN — Iraqi Trade Minister Mohammad Mahdi Saleh said Saturday his country may use Jordan as a major transit route for trade when the United Nations lifts Gulf war sanctions.

"I have discussed with Jordanian officials the possibility of preparing Jordan to become a transit centre for Iraqi commercial activities." Saleh said in an interview before leaving Jordan at the end of a three-day visit.

He also said an Australian company had agreed to sell Iraq one million tonnes of grain.

Saleh's talks here coincided with visits by numerous Iraqi businessmen hoping to buy food and medical supplies for the war-rayaged country.

Much of Iraq's foreign trade remains paralysed by U.N. trade sanctions imposed after its invasion of Kuwait last August, as well as a shortage of foreign exchange.

Saleh did not say if Jordanian officials accepted his request, but he noted that Baghdad had asked the U.N. sanctions committee for permission 10 import goods and export oil. Prior to the Gulf crisis, Jor-

dan was a major shipping route and trading partner for Iraq. whose own ports were blocked by the 1980-88 war with Iran. Jordan's only sea outlet, the

port of Agaba, handled 70 per cent of Iraqi sea trade during the past decade. The Gulf war embargo also

damaged Jordan. Officials here complain that coalition naval forces have repeatedly turned back shipments to Agaba destined for Jordan and noi Iraq.

Saleh. who arrived Thursday, met Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Trade Minister Ziad Fariz and Jordanian businessmen.

Saleh said in an interview that his visit was aimed at organising shipments of food and medical supplies to Iraq after acquiring U.N. approval.

"I have agreed with a representative of an Australian trade firm to export one million tonnes of grain by this summer which are urgently needed for the Iraqi people."

He refused to identify the company, but said his country was also looking for other grain sources. Baghdad imported much of its grain from the United States. Canada and Australia before the Gulf cri-

Saleh said he also soughi Jordan's help in releasing food shipments held by the multinational forces in European and other ports in compliance with the U.N. embargo.

No Kurdish zone — Bush guarantees for a pact, and there

Joint agency dispatches

THE UNITED States is not setting up a permanent security zone in Iran for Kurdish refugees, President George Bush said on Saturday. U.S. and allied forces have

expanded their safe haven for refugees in northern Iraq, and barred Iraqi troops from a border zone 130 kilometres long and 56 kilometres deep.

But asked whether this expan-

sion represented a permanent safety zone for the Kurds, Bush said, "I wouldn't phrase it that

"I've always said that we're not interested in a dismembered Iraq," Bush told reporters on board his official aeroplane flying to Michigan for a university "Certainly we want these peo-

ple's lives protected against this violence that's been wrought upon them for many many years," he said, "It's been going for years and it's terrible."

> Kurdish-Iraqi talks resume on Monday

Kurdish officials said Saturday that talks on details of a promised autonomous Kurdish homeland in northern Iraq will start Monday in Baghdad.

The Kurds are at odds with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein over the need for international were reports of differences over how to split revenues.

Baker Fattah, spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. said negotiators are aiming at political, cultural and economic antonomy that would preserve "good foreign relations" with neighbouring countries that have large Kurdish populations.

We don't need an independent state," Fattah said. "It's a dream, but it's not reality."

Kurdish officials announced un April 24 that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had agreed in principle to grant expanded autonomy to the 3.5 million Iraqi Kurds and to carry out democratic reforms throughout the coun-

More Iraqi troops discharged

In Baghdad President Saddam Hossein has ordered the discharge from the armed forces of conscripts and reservists aged between 39 and 44, the Iraqi News Agency INA reported on Satur-

series of similar measures taken by the Iraqi leadership after the end on Feb 28 of the six-week Gulf war.

1960 have already been ordered discharged from the armed forces and the one-million strong popu-

At the same time Iraq said it was ending rationing of kerosene, introduced after U.S. and allied air raids on oil refineries during the Gulf war.

INA said the oil ministry had decided to end rationing from Sunday because restored refining capacity was sufficient to meet

Iraq two months ago rationed kerosene supplies to 30 litres per family every 20 days when consumption shot up.

Many families used kerosene as

fuel for cookers and heaters as a substitute for electrical appliances after allied air raids crippled power stations. Iraq last week ended petrol

rationing in another popular move to mark President Saddam Hussein's 54th birthday

Iraqi Catholics appeal to Pope

U.N. sanctions imposed on Bagh-

The order was the latest in a

Iraqis born between 1953 and lar army militia was disbanded

The Catholic patriarch of Iraq asked Pope John Paul on Saturday to campaign for an end to

"It was a historic audience," Raphael I Bidawid told reporters after the Pope received him in the Vatican with other Catholic and Orthodox Iraqi bishops.

Bidawid, patriarch of the Eastern Chaldean rite, said the

(Continued on page 5)

PFLP-GC withdraws from Beirut the PFLP-GC also has bases. and Israel dominate the rest.

Syria. with 40,000 troops in

Lebanon, is the principal foreign

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) - A Syrian-backed Palestinian faction said Saturday it will disarm its fighters in Lebanon under an Arab League plan to end that country's civil war.

An official of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command said the organisation on Friday ordered its fighters to disarm in line with the government effort. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

The Lebanese army on Monday pushed into Christian and Druse regions as a major step in regaining control from militia factions that have fought a 16-year

The government now controls 1,000 square miles about onequarter of Lebanon's territory. Syrian troops, Palestinian fighters

sponsor of the paln brokered by the Arab League in October 1989. Eventually, all militias are osed to disband and all foreign forces leave Lebanon. The main Christian and Druse

militias have already turned over much of their heavy weaponry to the army under the plan, which calls for the militias to eventually Residents of the Naameh dis-

trict south of Beirut reported seeing PFLP-GC fighters withdrawing in convoys from their bases hours before the army moved in last Wednesday.

They were apparently headed for the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley of east Lebanon, where

The whole nation will have to

bear with it. But the question is

The Naameh bases, believed to hold about 400 fighters, were frequently raided by Israeli jets over the past five years. The PFLP-GC is one of the Palestinian factions most closely tied to Syria. It is at adds with

Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatch branch of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Another Syrian-backed fac-

tion, the Fatch-Uprising group led by Col. Saeed Musa, earlier said it had withdrawn its fighters and weapons to the Bekaa from refugee camps in Beirut. Arafat so far has refused to

disarm his 6,000 fighters in south Lebanon, and PLO officials argue they are not covered by the accord because they are a liberation movement rather than a mili-

Bangladesh death toll passes 125,000

death toll from Bangladesh's worst cyclone rose to more than 125,000 on Saturday and could go much higher, official BSS news agency said.
"The official death toll now

stands at 125,200 with the confirmation of 40,000 deaths in Cox's bazar district alone," it quoted Abdullah Al Noman. state minister for forests, fisheries, livestock and environment as

if Chittagong district confirms reports that 80,000 had died there. BSS said. Friday's count in Chittagong was 60,000. Officials voiced fears that the

tally would surpass 150,000. This has been the worst catastrophe Bangladesh has ever ex-

The toll could go much higher

Earlier on Saturday the cyclone preparedness centre in Dhaka confirmed 103.059 deaths and said tens of thousands of people

bow?"

still missing were presumed dead. Winds gusting up to 145 miles per hour (235 kph) slammed into the densely populated Bang-ladesh coast and a dozen islands on Monday night, whipping up six-metre waves.

Winds and currents continue to sweep human corpses ashore and thousands of bloated animal carcauses litter ruined farms. "Every day more and more bodies are floating up," Luttur

for relief and rehabilitation, said

ster of state

Rahman Khan, mi

"We don't know how the situation is on some of the islands." Ten million people — almost a tenth of Bangladesh's 115 million population - lost homes in the worst storm in the disaster-prone state's 20-year history.

Nobody is removing them be-

cause they are fighting for their lives, their survival," Khan said.

The vast majority of their houses were flattened or washed out to sea. Survivors have virtually no

food or drinking water and faced threats of cholera and diarrhocal discases, officials said. Rain and winds were hamper ing airborne relief efforts. More

relief supplies and equipment were needed, particularly helicopters and fast boats able to brave rough seas to reach devas-tated islands. The government said aid op-

erations should improve after three Indian helicopters arrive later on Saturday to join six Bangladesh airforce belicooters dropping food and supplies to islands and coastal villages. Reuter photographer Rafique

Rahman said pilots often hover over shattered areas and drop supplies, afraid to land lest panicked survivors try to scramble aboard.

Khan said 10 ships sank in Chittagong harbour during the

He estimated damage at \$1.4 billion and said \$60 million was needed for immediate relief onerations.

Officials said the full extent of

damage by the storm, worse than was caused by the 1970 cyclone that killed 100,000 people, would not be known for weeks. Saudi Arabia said on Friday it

would send about \$100 million in aid to help restore Bangladesh's public services.

Abdul Wahab, father of modern Arabic music, dies at 90 patriotic songs and starred in His funeral will be held after CAIRO (R) - Mohammad

Abdul Wahab, considered the father of modern Arab music. died of heart failure early on Saturday at the age of 90, the

moulded the traditional quarter-tone themes of classical Middle Eastern music with western forms to turn out hundreds of romantic songs whose popularity remain nnrivalled throughout the Arab World. Newspapers and broadcas-

ters said Abdul Wahab com-

plained of fatigue at around

midnight on Friday. His wife,

Nahla, called for an ambul-

ance but by the time it arrived

he had died.

Hundreds of thousands of Egyptians jammed the square around the mosque for the 1975 funeral of another giant of Arab music, Umm Kalthoum. Many of her songs were composed by Abdul Wahab. The composer, born in Cairo

in 1901, began his career as a singer in a small musical group. He later went to Cairo's Institute of Oriental Music. where he studied the oud (lute), an Arabic stringed instrument, along with western

He subsequently composed around 1,800 romantic and

year singing break to record the song Min ghair lai (without why) which quickly hir the top of the charts across the Middle The song came under fire from many Muslim fun-

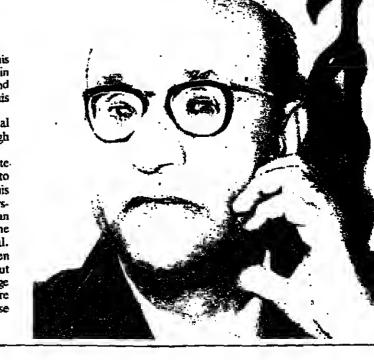
hospital a week before his death after he lost balance in his home, fell on the ground and suffered bruises on his shoulder, back and thighs. He practiced his normal

on Friday and was listening to

day and said he was normal. Al Ahram said he had been working on a new song about the haj, the muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, in the weeks before his death and hoped to release

(Continued on page 3)





several musical films. the Muslim noon prayer on He gave up singing for 30 Sunday at the Omar Makram Mosque in the centre of Cairo. years to concentrate on composing, and wrote the music for songs recorded by many of Egyptian media reported.

The singer-composer the Arab world's best-known

Last year he ended his 30-

damentalists, who said its fatalistic words questioning the meaning of life encouraged disbelief in God. Abdul Wahab, married with

five children, briefly entered

routine until the end, although he seldom left his house. He are dinner as usual at late-

the radio shortly before his death, according to the newspaper Al Ahram, His physician had visited him earlier in the



By Rasit Gurdilek The Associated Press

ANKARA. Turkey - Simmering tensions between Turkish officials and the allied forces trying to repatriate Knrdish refugees have exploded in a series of incidents that could threaten

In the latest sign of trouble, Turkey closed its border with Iraq for about three bours Friday. holding up the overland transport of relief supplies. Turkey said it was enforcing border controls on the trucks' cargoes.

The move came after a Turkish newspaper claimed that U.S. forces were shipping guns to Iraqi Kurdish rebels in aid packages to

U.S. and Turkish authorities quickly denied the report, but it caused controversy in Turkey, which has faced a 6-year-old insurgency by members of Kurdish minority seeking greater auton-

The horder incident also appeared linked to an article in the London newspaper, the Independent, that accused Turkish soldiers of stealing relief supplies. Infuriated Turkish officials on

Friday deported the newspaper's Middle East correspondent, Robert Fisk, who wrote the arti-

On Thursday, Turkey ordered the withdrawal of 26 British royal marines for allegedly roughing up a local Turkish official in a refugee camp.

The perceived insults to Tur-

key have prompted opposition political leaders to demand that all foreign troops leave Turkey. "Turkish troops should be in charge of distributing aid, not foreign troops," said Erdal In-onu, chairman of the Social

'Not only should these troops go, but so should President Turgut Ozal and the government. which make people think as if Turkey is invaded by foreign troops," said Bulent Ecevit of the Democratic Left Party.

Democrat Populist Party.

Ozal invited the allied troops to belp aid the bundreds of thousdands of Iraqi refugees converging on Turkey's border. He was the first to suggest that allied forces create "safe havens" in northern Iraq.

But relations have grown increasingly chilly between the allied relief officials and the

In part, Turkey is upset by foreign media accounts criticising its aid effort and troops. That anger is sure to increase with the outhreak of choiera in one sprawting Turkish border camp.

The Western relief group Doctors Without Borders on Friday reported 100 cases of cholera in the past week among Kurdish refugees at the Cukurcka camp and said three people have died of the At the same time, there has

been friction between Turkey's powerful, proud military and thousands of foreign troops setting np bases in southeastern Local officials have taken part

of the blame for the criticism

about Turkey's treatment of the

"Had we been too soft (on the Iraqi Kurds), we would be seen as ready to accept them as re-fugees," said Shabettin Harput, governor of the border province

of Hakkari. A statement reflected the government's fear that it would be forced to foot the bill for the refugees. Officials are still smarting over the arrival in 1988 of about 60,000 Iraqi Kurds, about 27,000 of whom remain in refugee camps.

the state of the s

Turkey was relieved when it became clear that Western relief efforts were serious, hut remained dissatisfied over the amount of aid being contributed. High-ranking officials contend that despite its scarce means, Turkey has provided seven times as much aid to the refugees as all the other countries put together. However, they have overlooked the aid air-dropped by Western air forces, or contributions countries have made to private agen-

Turkey has been especially sensitive about reports from foreign media and relief officials criticising the army for the deaths of refugees caused by "stray bullets" fired in the air to quell food

Turkish officials and media have responded with claims of a double standard.

Last weekend, the daily Hurriyet featured a half-page photo showing a U.S. supply helicopter under siege by Kurdish refugees at a camp on the Turkish border.

U.S. envoy tells Israel aid for immigrants not assured

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) - U.S. Ambassador William Brown, criticising Israel's settlement and economic policies, warned on Friday that billions of dollars in aid to absorb immigrants was not assured.

His comments came just two days after Washington snubbed Housing Minister Ariel Sharon. an action seen as a first sign of long-predicted U.S. pressure on Israel to soften its position on peace talks.

Tremendous priority has been given to providing housing in the territories," Brown told business leaders in Tel Aviv.

"Indeed, as we found out re-

cently, mobile homes that sometimes take many months to install on this side of the green line seem to be installed overnight in the West Bank." Green line is a colloquial term

for Israel's borders before the 1967 war, in which it captured the Gaza Strip and Sinai from Egypt, the West Bank from Jordan and the Golan Heights from Syria.

Brown said Israel should not depend on receiving foreign aid to absorb Soviet immigrants, whose numbers have topped

200,000 in 18 months. "As a friend, I must tell you that to base your hopes mainly on the generosity of foreign governments, even my own, is not the whole solution," he said. "There can be no assurances that tens of billions of dollars will materialise that way."

Israel receives more U.S. aid — three billion dollars a year than any other country.

Sharon, who was denied a formal meeting with his U.S. counterpart on Wednesday by order of Secretary of State James Baker, has accused the United States of trying to force Israel to "trade land for Jews" by hinging loan quarantees to Israeli concessions on the peace process.

Sharon had angered Baker by announcing plans for further settlement as Baker was trying to persuade Israel and Arab states to open peace talks.

Some 100,000 Jews have settled in the occupied territories, where Palestinians have been in revolt against Israeli occupation 40 menths.

Carlucci urges West Bank elections

By Rosalind Mandine and M.C. Jaspersen

WASHINGTON — Araba should call for elections in the West Bank and, at the same time, insist on peace negotiations with Israel, Frank Carlucci, former U.S. secretary of defence, told Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee's (ADC) convention.

Addressing the convention kick-off dinner May 2, Carlucci said, "Indeed, I think the Palestimians are passing up a bet (by) not pushing on (Israeli Prime Minister) Shamir's old, now-discarded proposal for elections on the West Bank. Even if they're not perfect, some kind of an electoral mandate would help to shake the Israeli hammer-lock on the West Bank." The ADC's convention, being

held here May 2-5, follows what the ADC calls "a high profile year for the Arab-American community." Panel discussion on the convention programme reflect the convention theme: "Arab-Americans: In the Struggle for Peace and Justice.'

The ADC is a non-sectarian, non-partisan service organisation dedicated to the promotion of the civil and legal rights of people of Arab descent, including resistance to racism, discrimination, and stereotyping of Arab Amer-

The ADC has over 25,000 members organised in 70 chapters, making it the largest Arab-American organisation in the United States.

Carlucci said it was clear to him that the only solution to Israeli-Palestinian problem "is to recognise the legitimate rights of the Palestinians." He added, however, that this "does not necessarily mean a Palestinian state — but is sure doesn't preclude it."

At the same time, Carlucci emphasised, it is important for Arabs "to say publicly what they have told us all the time: that they are willing to make peace with Israel, and let Israel live in secur-

"We need to destroy the argument - in this country and in the Patrick Smith, whose superhalls of Congress — that the Arabs are not willing to make peace, because you and I know that they are willing to make peace," he said.
"I think we're now seeing the

problems associated with the kinds of solutions some Arab

countries have advocated in the past - a peace conference, international conference, or regional conference: It's a very easy thing to frustrate," he said. "In my own judgement, the best course... is, to proceed with functional negotiations (on) regional arms con-trol — Israel has indicated receptivity to that - water rights, local

Carlucci warned that "the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the threat of regional wars using this weaponry" represent "a major threat" to the 1990s, "We need to construct a

deterrent," he said. On the question of human rights, Carlucci said the United States must condemn Israeli violations of Palestinians' buman rights "just as vigorously as we condemn Iraqi violation of human rights."

In the convention's first panel discussion May 3, Representatives Don Edwards (Democrat of California) and Norman Mineta (Democrat of California), and the former Democratic representative from Missouri, David Bowen, emphasised that Arab Americans must become politically active if they want to counter the pro-Israeli lobby's power-

ful influence in Congress.

Constituent opinion "is very important. We really listen to people," Edwards said. "We have to; it's our survival."

Mineta recalled being interned as a 10-year-old in a camp for Japanese Americans during World War Two. That would never have happened to him, he said, if Japanese Americans had had a strong involvement in politics at the time war broke out. The convention programme also includes panels on: Domestic issues of concern

to the Arab-American community: congressional activism. minority business status for Arab Americans, psychological and social issues facing Arab Americans, and organising Arab-Americans on campus. - issues brought out by the

war in the Gulf: press coverage in the Gulf, relief and refugee efforts after the war, and the Guif crisis and the backlash against Arab Americans.

Other Middle East issues of continuing importance will also be addressed, including panels on the Israeli occupied territories and the future of the Arab

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Finnish expert joins Iraq weapons monitoring team

HELSINKI (R) - A Finnish specialist in detecting traces of monitoring Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, the foreign ministry said. Marjatta Rautio, head of the Finnish project on the verification of chemical weapons, joins a commission set up under the Security Council's Gulf war ceasefire resolution which required the destruction or removal of Irag's chemical and biological weapons. Rauno's project, based at Helsinki University, has worked for more than 17 years on banned chemicals and ways of detecting the traces that herve gases leave in the air, soil

cholera

PARIS (R) - A hundred Kurds at the Turkish refugee camp of Cukurca have been treated for cholera in the past week, an international medical charity said on Friday. Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) Doctor Philippe Biberson said samples analysed in Paris had confirmed the presence of cholera, and doctors in the mountain camp were also treating several patients for suspected typhoid. "Inevitably we're going to see cases of typhoid. There's the whole spectrum of intestinal infections at Cukurca." he said. Biherson said MSF had set up a centre apart from the camp to cope with the cholera outhreak and doctors were destroying human waste to prevent the infection spreading. He said conditions in the camp, home to an estimated 70 DUI refugees, deteriorated over the last two days as heavy rain swept mud and excrement across the slopes. "American marines have been digging latrines and trying to improve sanitation at Cukurca. But it's no use - the only solution is to move the refugees from that site." he said.

Beirut is rising from the ashes once again

By Donna Abu Nasr The Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — These days, bospital wards are filled with accident victims and soccer players with broken ankles. not wounded militiamen or civilians hit by shell splinters. Beirut is rising from the

ashes once again. Thousands of Lebanese who fled the carnage now plan to return and are enrolling their children in schools. Workers are scraping morbid photos of militia "martyrs" off the city's walls and putting up colourful posters for concerts and carniv-

Peace really seems at hand this time, after 16 years of civil war that cost an estimated 150,000 lives and displaced one-fourth of the one million people who lived in Lebanon. On orders of President Elias Hrawi, soldiers moved into the

cantons of Maronite Catholics

and Druse Muslims northeast

and southeast of Beirut this

week, exerting government authority there for the first time in years.
The main Maronite and Druse militias are surrendering their heavy weapons in the second phase of a peace plan arranged by the Arab League.

Militias withdrew from Beirut

during the first phase, in De-

Disarming other factions, the final and most difficult

stage, is to begin July 1. That will put the army in direct confrontation in the south with the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Israel's surrogate South Lebanon Army, and in the east with Iranian Revolutionary Guards and their Shiite Muslim protege militia Hizbollah, or Party of God.

These groups refuse to surrender their weapons. The Israelis and their allied militia occupy a border zone and refuse to relinquish it because of the threat from the PLO and other guerrilla factions.

Still, the civil war that began in April 1975 appears to have

Gone is the green line, a detested no-man's land running for eight kilometres between the Christian and Muslim sectors of Beirut. The army bulldozed it.

People are visiting old friends on the other side for the first time in a decade.

Christian militia commander Samir Geagea and Walid Jumblatt, the Druse warlord, have declared publicly that they consider the war over. "A new peace is dawning,"

said Geagea, once a medical student and now commander of the Lebanese Forces, "Arise in welcome, salute it and be

happy for its arrival." As Safir, a leftist Beirut daily, declared in response: "this is like an official obituary for

the era of the militias." Hrawi's authority depends largely on the support of Syria, which has 40,000 soldiers in Lebanon under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab League, but the army now controls about one-fourth of the country. More importantly, many of

the militiamen who strutted the Beirut streets and fought each other in turf wars have resigned themselves the loss of power - at least for the time Some feel bitter, "We're the

ones who risked our lives for Lebanon," one said. "The army's just taking over after we did the dirty and dangerous work for them. Most Lebanese seem to feel their nightmare is finally over

and Hrawi can start putting the

sbattered economy back Beirut will need years of rebuilding to become the commercial centre of the Middle East, as it was before 1975.

It may never again be the

playground of Arab oil sheikhs and high rollers, but with financial backing from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states, the Lebanese are ready to take their best shot.

"The war's over. It's really true. It's no longer just a dream," said Hiyam Shami, a Muslim secretary. "It'a the first time since the war started that I've felt this way, this good."

More than 50 restaurants and boutiques bave opened in recent months. Gutted stores have acquired new facades, and churches and botels have been renovated. Stone blocks and sandbags

that protected stores and apartments from shrapnel and gunfire are being moved away. Underground shelters, where thousands of families spent weeks on end when the fighting raged, are being cleaned and closed, in bopes they won't be needed again.

Police, after years as bapless bystanders to militia battles, are beginning to reassert their authority.

They also have a new mission: wiping out packs of stray dogs that lived in the green line rums, feeding off the corpses of slain gunmen. The dogs now scavenge in residential areas. terrifying the people.



WAR STORIES - A Muslim militiaman takes a break from his part at a rocket launcher aimed at Christian troops positioned along Beirut's Green Line.

Operations are resuming at the battered international airport, but it is used only by Middle East Airlines, Lebanon's national carrier, and a few Eastern European airlines. The Dutch airline KLM and others are sending teams to discuss resuming flights, many for the first time in at least 14

Electricity and water, cut off completely a year ago, now are provided 6 to 12 hours a day. At other times, the city burns with the sound of thousands of

generators. Skepties remain. Peace agreements have come and gone before.

market offers a rich variety of imported goods, has not removed the stone blocks around his west Beirut store. "They're part of the decor,"

he said. "And, anyway, I'm still afraid of bombings. Some people even feel nos-

talgia for the crazy days when militias ran the city and Maslim west Beirut, in particular, was little more than a shooting gallery for unruly gunmen. "Those days of the war had a

special quality," said Rima Itam, a bank clerk. "The war brought people closer. There was a feeling of camaraderic, shared danger. I miss that."

Bush focus on Mideast peace draws mixed reviews

By Carol Giacomo

WASHINGTON - To the chagrin of some analysts and the relief of others. President George Bush has made a personal commitment to settling the Arab-Israeli conflict despite an apparent lack of progress in Secretary of State James Baker's peace diplomacy.

One group of experts argues the United States is squandering time and effort on an intractable problem while attention is diverted from more important malters, such as the upheavals threatening to break

apart the Soviet Union. The opposing camp insists Baker's three recent Middle East missions have achieved some movement, however subile, that could at least bring Israel into direct peace talks

with Jordan and Palestinians and must be pursued. After several days of official

silence. Bush on Thursday sent a clear signal about continued top-level focus on this. Talking to White House re-

porters, the president refused to concede defeat in the peace effort and committed his personal prestige to it, saying: "I am determined to be the catalyst in that troubled corner of the world for peace."

Baker's trip to the region last week - his third since the Gulf war ended at the end of Fehruary - seemed to make little headway towards his goal of arranging a peace conference that would lead to direct talks hetween Israel and the

After 11 days on the road. the secretary, who hates to fail, left a question about whether he would return to the Middle East and seemed impatient with his flagging mission.

A private meeting on Wednesday between Bush and Baker to discuss "appropriate next steps" seemed to sweep away doubts. The president said he had no immediate plans to send Baker on a fourth trip but noted: "that could change any minute."

Senior U.S. officials say Bush and Baker made new decisions about their peace strategy but, as with most of Baker's negotiations, details were kept secret.

Bush began the new Middle East initiative in the euphoric era after the Gulf war ended. saving he wanted to use the "window of opportunity" for peace that the allied victory

offered. He insisted on Thursday that

opportunity is still available. despite the fact that two critical players. Israel and Syria, have maintained hardline positions on fundamental issues like a United Nations role in any peace conference. Syria wants a significant U.N. role while Israel opposes it.

Some analysts see hints of new reasons for optimism. "Bush is not a fool and Baker is not a fool," one senior official told Reuters. "They must think there is something that they can continue working

with. This official said that if the time comes when Bush and Baker conclude they have hit a brick wall in the peace process. they will end their effurts. "They are not afraid to do

that." he said. Adam Garfinekle of Philadelphia's foreign policy re-

search institute believes Baker is wasting precious time if he undertakes another high-profile trip to the region and pursues the peace conference proposal.

"Ever since mid-March the

secretary and his aides have been spending an excruciating amount of time tilting at the Arab-Israeti windmill when there are other things concerning Gulf security and the Soviet Union" that need that attention and are likely to produce more results. Garfinkle said.

But Charles William Maynes, editor of fureign policy magazine, disagrees. would be a great humiliation for Bush to concede defeat now on this issue, Maynes said.

"We're supposed to be running the world now, the only superpower. The president enjoys domestic popularity and enormous international respect. If he stubs his toe on the first serious obstacle in his way, it doesn't look very good."

Maynes said that at some point the United States is going to have to replace persuasion with pressure - and ultimately money - to secure a Mideast deal as Washington did a decade ago when it promised Israel and Egypt billions of dollars in aid to get the Camp David peace accords.

Maynes contends Bush has maximum leverage now. To handle an expected influx of Soviet Jews in the next five years, he says, israel needs upwards of \$60 billion, some of which is expected to come from the United States and some from Europeans at U.S.

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A hundred Kurdish refugees treated for

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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tcl. 815817, 654932, Church of the Nazarene tel. 675691. WEATHER

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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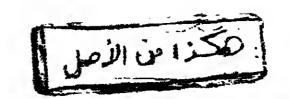
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MARKET PRICES



AACO meeting tackles airport services

nian (RJ) has participated in an annual conference on airport services organised in Damascus hy the Arab Air Carriers Organisarion (AACO).

Means of developing ground services at Arab airports by foreign and regional companies was among the main topics discussed at the meeting held in the past week, according to Akel Biltaji, RJ vice president for ground services who returned to Amman after chairing the conference that lasted three days.

All the Arab airliners were represented at the meeting, said Mr. Biltaji, and the participants also focused attention on coordinating ground services at the airports with national civil aviation authorities and departments that deal with health, passports, cus-

toms and security matters.

Mr. Biltaji said these departments should be asked to raise their standard.

Another topic for discussion was means of ensuring facilities for passengers at the airport and ensuring easy flow of air freight and air mail operations. Mr. Biltaji said.

The RJ delegation to the meeting grouped two senior RJ officials in addition to Mr. Biltaji who will now report to the AACO General Assembly meeeting to be convened in Tri-poli, Libya, later this month.

APC plans to boost production

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Arab Potash Company (APC) bas to boost its production to 2.2 million tonnes by the year 1995, up from the present 1.4 million. but the programme will be implemented in two stages, according to APC Director General Ali Ensour.

"The two stages entail the introduction of two production lines with a total annual capacify of 400,000 tonnes each." Mr. Ensour said in a statement quoted by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

He said that the first stage would be implemented between 1991 and 1993 while the second one can be completed by the year

Mr. Ensour estimated the cost of the first expansion stage at \$100 million which, he said, will come in the form of loans from the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank.

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"The government is giving due attention to chemical industries based on the Dead Sea salts and has contracted three consultancy firms to conduct feasibility studies. These firms have completed the first phase of the study which was debated last month to pave the way for the second and final phase which would be completed by the end of this year," Mr. Ensour added.

He said that a plan for financing the project, which envisages the production of sodium carbonate, magnesium and other products will be implemented in the

Mr. Ensour said that APC had realised a net profit of JD 39.5 million in 1990 and would soon distribute dividends to the share-

The APC last year sold nearly 85 per cent of its total production to Asian countries with India acquiring the biggest part of nearly 500,000 tonnes annually, fol-lowed by China with 400,000

Other countries which import Jordanian potash are Indonesia, Malaysia, Korea, Japan, Taiwan. Mr. Ensour said that up to 20 per cent of the APC production goes to countries west of Suez, like those in Europe, Africa and Latin

. America. France, Italy and Brazil are the main importers among these countries, he added.

The APC, which was established in 1956, has its plants at a site near the southern tip of the Dead Sea which provides the raw materials for its products. The company is shared by Jordan, which owns 54 per cent of its capital, along with Knwait, Libya, Saudi Arabia and the Islaunic Bank

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Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Solem Massadela Saturday distributes awards to

traffic police officers on World Traffic Day (Petra

Estimates put Jordan's 1990 economic

losses from road accidents at JD 40m

Jordan marks World Traffic Day

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Saturday marked World Traffic Day with a celebration held at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman, distribution of awards to those with remarkable services in road safety matters, and a parade of vehicles with posters calling public attention to the

increased dangers on the roads.
"By observing World Traffic Day, Jordan stresses the value of life and underlines the need for further caution on the roads to protect man and property," said Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masaadeh in an address at the celebration.

"A vehicle is a scientific product of our modern age and has been manufactured to give us convenience and facilitate our work if it is used with care and caution, but the vehicle can become a source of danger to all the members of the public when drivers tend to speed and to drive rashly and recklessly," Mr.

He said that the government had been endeavouring to spread awareness among the public about the safety on the roads in a bid to safeguard lives and protect

Addressing the meeting, organised by the Public Security Department (PSD), was Dr. Znheir Malhas, former health minister and president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA), who referred to the enormous loss in life and property resulting from road accidents each year.

The road accidents, he said, are caused by the driver, the car or the condition of the road, but statistics have shown that 95 per cent of all accidents are due to

Dr. Malhas said that estimates put Jordan's economic losses from road accidents last year at JD 40 million. "The losses cover loss of vehicles, the purchase of spare parts and loss of working days which can otherwise be productive," he explained.

Director of the PSD's Licencing Department Brigadier Awni Mismar said that by observing World Traffic Day, Jordan is focusing the light on the volume of losses resulting from road accideuts so that it can serve as an incentive for people to exert efforts towards reducing them.

The total number of registered road accidents in the past year, he

said, stood 17.836. The accidents were responsible for the death of 375 people and the injury of 10,464 others.

Brig. Mismar said that the number of accidents last year was by 500 less than those of 1989 but the number of dead and injured was higher.

To deal with the danger, Brig. Mismar said, all members of the society as well as traffic police should be involved in meaningful cooperation and should direct their attention to promoting safety on the roads.

Mr. Masaaden distributed token gifts to veteran traffic policemen, representatives of voluntary institutions and information services who exerted distinguished efforts to spread awareness on the necessity of safe

Mr. Masaadeh later inspected an exhibition of drawings by school students depicting road accidents and conditions on the roads in general.

Later, a parade of vehicles with posters warning of the dangers on the road passed in front of the Royal Cultural Centre and through various main streets of the capital,



MAYOR OPENS EXHIBITION: Amman Mayor Ali Subeimat Saturday opens the annual exhibition of works by students of engineering professions and fine arts at Al. Khawarizmi Community College in Amman. The four-day exhibition displays paintings,

interior design, artchitectural models of houses and buildings, and photographs. Taking part in the exhibition are the college's departments of fine arts, interior design, television production and mechanical en-

Industrialists complain policy on foreign workers affects productivity

AMMAN (J.T.) — A govern-ment crackdown on foreign workers in the Kingdom, in the course of organising the Jordanian labour market, has adversely affected the Jordanian inudstry. and, in some eases, production at a number of factories has dropped hy 30) per cent, according to Khaldoun Ahu Hassan, president of the Amman Chamber of In-

"The Labour Ministry's decision to reduce the number of foreign workers in Jordan came at a time when the country was in bad need of foreign workers in order to guarantee production and exports," said Ahu Hassan at a meeting attended by Lahour Minister Ahdul Karim Al Duchmi and representatives of the Jordanian industrial sector.

Discussion dwelt on the need to provide for the leather, weaving and construction industries in

"Despite the fact that Jordanian industrialists are showing a greater measure of cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, and are trying to substitute foreign

labourers with Jordanian workers, the industrial sector is in need of the foreign workers to survive at least for the time being." Ahu Hassan said.

According to Ahu Hassan, the industrial sector in Jordan is in need of foreign workers because, there are not enough Jordanian technicians to take over from the foreigners, "Joidanian youth are still shunning work in industry as they prefer to have clerical work in the offices." Ahu Hassan said, Vocational training program-mes in certain fields do not cope

with the industrial needs and certain industries require special skills tacking in Jordan, according to Abu Hassan. Abu Hassan proposed the

formation of a joint committee. made up of officials from the Ministry of Labour and the Vocational Training Corporation as well as the Ammun Chamber of Industry and the Federation of Jordanian Labour Unions, to deal with problems resulting from shortages of local skilled workers.

Abu Hassan said that the Amman Chamber of Industry had embarked on preparing a plan to set up a specialised institute in offer industrial training, to serve as a hack-up to the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC), and to provide the labour market

with its needs of skilled workers,

especially in the leather and

weaving industries. He said that the chamber had already contacted international organisations, through the Ministry of Planning, to support this

According to latest govern-ment statistics, 160,000 foreign workers are now employed in Jordan most of them illegally and at least 106,000 Jordanians are unemployed and seeking work.

Minister of Labour discussed the unemployment issue at a meeting with Prime Minister Mudar Badran last week and the prime minister stressed the need for the ministry to give priority in employment to Jordanian

Mr. Dughmi told Ahu Hassan that the crackdown on the foreign workers was motivated by the need to deal drastically with the unemployment problem in Jose

He said that was a national issue requiring cooperation from all sides, including the VTC which has now embarked on intensive programmes to provide training in various skill to the Jordanian job seekers.

Mr. Dughmi said he blamed local employers who still gave priority to the non-Jordanian workers and those who violated the Ministry of Labour's laws and regulations.

Mr. Dughmi used the Labour Day anniversary, on May 1, to encourage Jordanian joh-seekeis or accept available posts left vacant by the non-Jordanian workers so as to earn a decent living.

The VTC, he said, was expanding its programmes and enlisting help from local industries to recruit and train Jordanians to take up various jobs.

Mr. Dughmi said he supported Ahu Hassan's idea of forming a joint committee to oversee the problem of shortage of Jordanian workers and the country's needs of foreign labour.

RSS issues study on rural development

AMMAN (J.T) — Royal Scientific Society (RSS) Economic Research Centre has issued a study entitled "Rural Development and its Administración in Jordan."

ters, sheds light on services, orojects, and administrative development in the Jordanian country-The first chapter defines coun-

the administrative and legal characteristics of the Jordanian coun-

include an analysis of services and the development of countryside. he fifth chapter of

sents recommendations reached in the study to activate the development process in country-

The study was based on a field survey of an arbitrarily selected sample comprising fifty municipalities in various rural areas in the Kingdom. It was also based on secondary information obtained from different sources as well as previous practical and theoretical studies in this field.

adopted by the government.

Such projects aim at providing residents with their hasic needs of commodities and services as well as supplying the city with the surplus quantines of the produce of the rural areas.

Ebert Stiftung of Germany con-

The study, covered in six chap-

tryside development and the characteristics of the agricultural sector in Jordan. The second chapter deals with

The third and fourth chapters

productive projects in the countryside, as well as the role of public and private institutions in problems and impediments facing the development process in the countryside.

Finally, the sixth chapter pre-

Director of RSS Economic Research Centre Dr. Ahmad Qasem Al Ahmad noted that this study complied with the hroad lines of the planning policy currently

Future projects will result in curtailing emigration from the countryside to the city, and enhancing the endeavour designed to encourage the establishment of productive projects in the coun-

It is noteworthy that Friedrich

tributed to financing the project in order to promote scientific

Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday meets National College students involved in voluntary work in Zahran district (Petra photn)

Premier says voluntary work helps build up society

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Mudar Badran said Saturday that voluntary work should be encouraged at all levels, especially among students of schools and colleges, and the process of building up the society should be "infused in the hearts

of the young generation."
"Universalising the voluntary service can best come about through the schools, which are attended now by at least one third of the Jordanian population. said the prime minister during a. meeong with students from the National College involved in

weeding and removing grass in Zahran district.

"A great deal of benefit would come from students who form a big part of Jordan's society if they embark for at least one day a year voluntary, useful work for their community in various regions of Jordan," the prime minister said.

Mr. Badran thanked all citizens offering voluntary service 10 pro-tect the environment from population.

A number of students involved in the work in Zahran district said in a statement that their work was a manifestation of the true sense

of oational belonging. They called on all schools to encourage students to follow

their example so as to keep the country clean and tidy. The prime minister was accompanied by Amman Mayor Ali Spheimat and senior officials at the Amman Municipality as well as teachers at the National Col-

The teachers said that the voluntary work initiated by their institution was a contribution towards protecting the environment

Ruseifa pond stirs controversy

By Khalil Abdul Salam Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Ruscifa Municipality is pursuing serious efforts to ensure safety in and around a large pool of water adjoining the Pepsi Cola Factory near Ruscifa, known as the Pepei Cola pond, according to Ruseifa Mayor Monsa Al Saad.

He said in a statement to Al

Ra'i and the Jordan Times that the Pepsi Cola company was encouraged to keep pumping water to the pond so that it won't be turned into a swamp infested by insects and the municipality was constantly spraying the area with a insecticides because the pond lies within a residential district. Furthermore, the mayor said, the pond has been surrounded by an iron fence to prevent people from drowning.

A two-kilometre canal of water runs from the company to the pond which is located near an nrban development housing estate that dumps waste into the

According to Zarqa Governor Mohammad Shobaki, a special public health committee set up last year has embarked on a project of planting trees around and near the pond, benefiting from the water on the one hand and with the purpose of greening the district on the other.

"Due to these measures, the pond, which was a threat to public life to the past, is now a safe place," he noted.

Mr. Saad said that the water coming out from the Popsi company was safe as it was used to wash bottles only. The municipality, he said, has appointed guards and watchmen to ensure that all measures for improving the environment around the pond are

Amman municipality has a different view from that of

Ruseifa Municipality. Dr. Hussein Zaki, the deputy mayor, said that the pond, which is located in a low-laying area,

.can easily be covered with soil

Abdul Wahab

(Continued from page 1) it before the haj began in June.

Ben Ali pays tribute

Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali paid tribute Saturday to the late Ahdul Wahah. Ben Ali had visited the composer during a state visit to

Egypt in March 1990. In a message of condolences to Egyptian President Hor Mubarak, Ben Ali, known to be a great admirer, said Abdul Wahab was "one of masters of contemporary Arab culture" and he was deeply shocked by his death.

Hravi condoles

Lebanese President Elias Hrawi also sent a cable of condolences to President Mubarak, Egypt's Middle East News Agency MENA re-

ported. "Mohammad Abdal Wahab. who is missed by Lebanon as he is missed by Egypt and all the Araba, will remain a lantern that would be followed by coming generations," the cable

Society to hold bazaar

AMMAN (J.T.) - Under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, the Friends of the Liver Parients Society will hold its annual "creative hands" bazzaar on Monday, May 6. The bazaar, to be held at Amra Hotel, will have on display handicrafts and home-made products by women in Jordan.

Argentinian envoy ends tour of duty

AMMAN (Petra) - Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Saturday received in his office the Argentine ambassador to Jordan on the occasion of the end of his tour of duty. Mr. Lawzi and the ambassador discussed ways of promoting bilateral relations in various fields, particularly in parliamentary affairs.

Agricultural committee meets

AMMAN (Petra) - The steering committee of the Ministry of Agriculture's Projects Department held a meeting Saturday under the chairmanship of Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Al Alawneb. The committee approved creating an agricultural training and rehabilitation centre whose task will be to prepare theoretical and practical training programmes for engineers working at the ministry and for newly graduated agricultural

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Jordan, Yemen to discuss cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) - Yemeni Deputy Minister of Planning and Development Mazhar Abdullah Al Su'eidi will arrive in Amman Sunday on a several-day visit to Jordan. Dr. Su'eidi will hold talks with officials at the ministries of energy and mineral resources and planning on ways of enhancing cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the fields of energy and mineral

Abu Qoura to attend Damascus talks

AMMAN (Petra) - President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, who is also chairman of the Permanent Committee of the International Red Cross, will take part in the meetings of the executive council of the Arab Red Crescent Societies due to start in Damascus, Syria, next Thursday. The council is scheduled to discuss ways to unify the actions of Arab societies in international humanitarian works and issues listed on the agenda of the Red Cross and Red Crescent conference to be held in Budapest in November.

NAF aids 472 needy families

IRBID (Petra) - The number of needy families which benefitted from aids granted by the National Aid Fund (NAF) in Bani Kapana district during the past four months reached 472, according to the director of NAF offices in the district, Mashari Irsan. Mr. Irsan said that the families received JD 9.673 in periodical aid instalments. He said four rehabilitation projects

were carried out by NAF in the district during the past four mouths, with a total cost of JD 6,700. The number of rehabilitation projects currently existing in the district, he said, stands at 29, with a total cost of JD 23,935.

Mayor inaugurates exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — Amman Mayor Ali Subeimat Saturday opened the first spring market exhibition at the Jordanian Car Trading Company. The exhibition, in which 70 Jordanian industrial companies are taking part, displays furniture, home appliances, cosmetics, foodstuff, detergents, clothes, children's toys, accessories, plants, ornaments and vegetables. The exhibition runs through July.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

Art exhibition by Nazir Ismail at the French Cultural Centre. Art exhibition by Ahmad Nawash and Yasser Duwelk at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (opens at 6 p.m.) FILM

Ressian film entitled "The Torpedo Boat" at the Soviet Cultural Centre - 5:30 p.m.

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Traffic dilemma revisited

SINCE Jordan's commemoration of Labour Day last year, there were over 18,000 traffic accidents causing the death of no less than 375 people and injury to about 10,000. The economic cost of this alarming situation has been conservatively pnt at JD 40 millions. Thus the ceremonial celebrations of Traffic Day, year in and year out, have obviously failed to put an end to the continuing carnage on the roads and highways of the country. Clearly something basic is amiss in all the efforts that have been and are being exerted to halt this terrible human tragedy and the economic cost of the death and mayhems that are caused by it across the length and width of the Kingdom. Granted it is difficult to single out the real culprits in this grave crisis, something is clearly wrong with the ways and means deployed thus far in addressing traffic accidents in Jordan. In broad terms, what Jordanians, private citizens or public officials, need to develop is a culture for safe driving. This kind of proposed culture requires the cooperation of not only drivers of cars but also those in charge of safeguarding the lives of the people wbether in or outside vehicles by enforcing traffic rules and regulations. There are a multiplicity of factors that in their cumulative sense are contributing to the unacceptable level of road accidents. For some it is the road rouditions. For others it is the driving habits of citizens. Still others would place the blame on the traffic police who are not necessarily doing their duty in enforcing the law. Can we be but shocked to see the stop signs so totally ignored by our drivers, for example? Even traffic lights are not immune from abuse whenever drivers feel that the eyes of the police are elsewhere, such as dishing out parking tickets or speeding tickets in their favourite hang outs. The moral of the traffic violations story in Jordan is that in fact it is everybody's fault that we still have traffic crisis. It is the fault of the drivers, the police, the road conditions and every other parameter involved in the problem. What is required therefore is a comprehensive campaign that encompasses all these dimensions into one integrated plan. Starting with the police, they are asked to target areas of traffic violations that would decrease accidents rather than go after violations that would simply reap the state a windfall. In this vein, stop signs, traffic lights, sticking to lanes, speeding and reckless driving habits are all matters that deserve high priority attention. On the part of the drivers, they need to learn safe and courteous driving habits on the top of which is respect for traffic rules, driving defensively when necessary, and above all driving courteously by giving way to other drivers,

Our children also require special attention. It is shocking at there are no regulations on children passengers n motorvehicles. At a time when practically the entire world has placed restrictions on where children may be seated safely (never in the front seat, and the need to use special harnesses for infant passengers). Jordan has yet to move in

In short, the license to drive must go beyond the ability to do so mechanically. Likewise the authority to regulate driving requires more than dishing out parking tickets for the least priority violations, and forgetting in the process about the real causes of the problem. An integrated policy needs to be formulated and adopted for the purpose of realising safe driving in the country. Without it the battle against traffic accidents will never be won.

Arabic press commentaries

THE picture emerging from James Baker's tours in the Middle-East is rather puzzling to the Arabs, and can lead to nowhere, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily in its editorial Saturday. President Bush announced that he was not pessimistic about Baker's mission yet he believed that there was no need to send Baker back to the region to pursue his efforts which, be said, have achieved "progress", noted the paper. The Arabs have beard Washington accusing the Israelis of obstructing the peace process through their settlements on Arab land, but the Arabs have just heard also U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney announcing that U.S.-Israeli reations are at their best, and that he planned to visit Israel soon to discuss development of Israel's missiles, the paper continued. These manoeuvers coincided with an announcement by British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd that there was a clear difference between the Gulf crisis and the Middle East question, prompting us to believe that the major powers differentiate between world problems when it comes to the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions and the international legitimacy, the paper pointed out. This throws further ambiguity on the situation as the Arabs do not see a single step of real progress to resolve their problem. Only through concerted Arab efforts and collective action can the peace process by stimulated and the international legitimacy implemented, said the paper. The Arabs should not forget that the western powers now hold their golden opportunity for imposing their total hegemony on their nation.

We did not bet on America's so-called peace efforts which President Bush claimed were based on U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338, and we never believed in the shuttle diplomacy adopted by James Baker to pursue such efforts, said Sawt Al Shanb daily Saturday. The paper said it is not a matter of visits and tours of the region or a declaration in Washington about intention to work for peace as long as the efforts end up on the shelves of the Israeli government which refuses all bids to achieve peace. The true intentions of Washington can best be tested by the seriousness of the U.S. administration to exercise real pressure on the Israeli government to end its intransigence and its arrogance and refusal to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions, noted the paper. We want to see serious efforts in word and deed equal to those exercised against Iraq to force it out of Kuwait, and we want to see Israel respecting the international legitimacy, the paper continued. It said that no one is surprised to see Israel showing further instransigence, but we are dismayed to see the U.S. administration adopting double standards in its dealings with the international legitimacy, the paper said.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Self — sufficiency should be the national goal

IT is not meaningful for the patriotic movement in Jordan to raise its voice against the policies and designs of this foreign power or that, and against the positions taken by this Arab regime or that, to find at the end of the day that Jordan badly needs the goodwill of those powers and regimes, and their economic and financial assistance to secure its own survival and be able to satisfy the basic needs of the people and the economy.

In order to make the voice of anger more audible and credible, Jordan should first raise the degree of its economic self sufficiency without further delay. Jordan should not be under the mercy of this Arab regime or that foreign power. The well-being of its public should not depend wholly on the good intentions of external forces,

which we might disagree with their objectives, polices or orientation.

Economic independence and self-sufficiency are therefore not only economic and financial objectives, to be left to the ministries of finance and planning to take care of, they are political and national

Self-sufficiency is by no means the isolation and closure of the borders, on the assumption that we can produce all that we need without importation. This objective is impossible for a small country like Jordan. It does not go with the modern trend of interdependence among countries on equal footing.

Self-sufficiency is a sort of balance between exports and imports in the balance of trade, a reasonable balance between revenues and expenditure in the budget, and an acceptable balance between payments and receipts in the balance of payments, without having to borrow in excess of repayments of old debts in order to make ends

This national ambitious target is not easy, and could not be reached overnight, but it is not impossible to achieve if we have the polinical and national will, and if we resign ourselves to accepting the hardships and sacrifices that such achievement takes. The road may be long, but what counts is to start the march in the right direction

After the economic crisis of 1988, Jordan realised that it cannot go on forever borrowing time and money. The government found itself obliged to undergo a strict IMF programme for economic adjustment, in order to reduce the deficits and narrow imbalances, and to live within our own means.

After 15 months of successful adjustment, and on Aug. 2, 1990, the Gulf crisis erupted. It blew up many things, among them the IMF programme, and the re-scheduling agreements which were reached with official creditors within the framework of the Paris Club, and with commercial creditors in the framework of the London Club. Now Jordan finds itself with no adjustment programme, nor a development programme. The only form of macro — planning in existence is the annual budget, which is hardly a plan at all. The IMF is reportedly hesitant to belp in formulating a new adjustment programme for Jordan because planning is almost impossible in an environment of absolute uncertainty regarding future prospects of Arab aid, expatriates remittances, export markets, economic sanctions against Iraq and the possible return of some expatriates and their families to the country at the wrong time.

Now is the time for Jordan to take its future in its own hands. Why should we wait until the IMF tells us what direction our economy should take, leaving the ship in the meanwhile to sail blindly with the

winds, hoping to find ourselves miraculously on the safe shore. If the Jordanian economy really needs to be adjusted and reformed in order to achieve more self-sufficiency and rid itself from deficits, why should not we take up the job ourselves and formulate our national adjustment programme that the IMF could not refuse.

Self-sufficiency, and correction of distortions and deficits are no more technical issues to be left to economists. They should be at the top of the political and national agenda. Adjustment calls for lots of difficult decisions which should be taken in full participation of the people, and the enlighted national movement, which used to criticise the IMF programme without coming up with a better alternative.

Arab unity remains a dream

By Zina Hemady The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — Arabs talk of unity once again, papering over deep rifts created by the Gulf war along with animosities that have lingered for cen-

But / rab unity remains a distant dream, analysts say, and unlikely while power elites govern almost every Arab country and the gap between rich and poor Arabs remains

"After every catastrophe, the Arabs tend to come back trying to lick their wounds, said Tahseen Bashir, a political scientist. "They will try to kiss and make up, but this isn't enough, It's not serious."

Bashir knows about Arab disunity. He was a spokesman for President Anwar Sadat. whose trip to occupied Jerusalem in 1977 brought peace between Egypt and Israel. It also led to 10 years of ostracism for Egypt, the most populous Arab country, and was the main reason for Sadat's assassination in 1981.

Arah leaders customarily quarrel while trying to maintain an image of unity and fraternity, but the delicate ba-lance collapsed and the Arab World split when Iraq seized Kuwait on Aug. 2 in a dispute over land, money and oil.

Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria led the Arab campaign against iraq and joined the 33-nation coalition that drove its forces from Knwait. Jordan. tine Liberation Organisation opposed foreign intervention and called for or Arab solu-

After Iraq was defeated, Arab leaders began trying to mend fences. The Arab League, which

embraces Arab states from the Atlantic to the Gulf, met in Cairo in March. It was a routine, low-level

meeting, significant only because nobody boycotted it, not even Iraq. It was the first time all 21 members sat together since the invasion.

In his opening address, Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel Meguid of Egypt said the Arabs had entered a time of building confidence in each other as a prelude to "constant, effective and real Arab unity.

Seven nations founded the Arab league in 1945 and it now has 21 members. The charter does not mention unity, but describes the league's purpose as "the strengthening of relations among the member states ... in order to achieve cooperation among them and to safeguard their independence and

sovereignty." Gamal Abdul Nasser of Egypt was the first modern Arab leader to preach unity. He succeeded in merging Egypt and Syria into the United Arab Republic in 1958, but the Syrians soon complained of domination by Nasser and the union crumbled in

three years. Bashir and other analysts say the Middle East will be crisis-prone as long as Arab leaders run their countries as one-man shows and that unity, to which all give lip service, will remain

virtually impossible. "Many Arab regimes are personal regimes." Bashir said. "Many leaders tend to think of the state as their baby. The citizens don't have a say."

"One day they agree on unity with passion," he said of the leaders. "The next day, they agree on disunity with passion."

Many Arabs blame their woes on colonialism. During

World War I. France and Britain promised to reward Arab military help against the Ottoman Turks with independence, The Arabs helped, the Ottomans fell, but the colonial powers divided the Arab heartland among themselves.

Earl Sullivan, a specialist in Arab affairs at American University in Cario, said artificial horders drawn by colonial powers caused problems, but the most divisive issues are rooted in conflicting Arab in-

Most Arab countries have no real parliamentary representation or separation of powers. Some even lack constitutions, and the state is identified with the leader.

"Both the political tradition of the Middle East and the prescription of Islam require the Arab masses to pay unquestioning obedience to the ruler set above them." historian John B. Kelly wrote in the Spectator, a British magazine. Even countries like Egypt,

Jordan and Algeria, with parliaments and opposition parties, are far from fully representative. President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, among the most prog-ressive Arab leaders, has un-

Algeria

questioned personal authority over foreign policy. When he sent more than 38,000 soldiers to the anti-Iraq coalition, only a few objections were heard

from the opposition. Mubarak ostensibly leaves domestic policy to his government, but it unfailingly does bis bidding. His National Democratic party holds 80 per cent of the seats in parliament.

Analysts argue that, because political unity will be difficult to achieve, the move towards integration should begin with economic cooperation. Sullivan said new Arab eco-

nomic groups pave the way for integration by encouraging inter-Arab trade, currently negligible. He cited the Arab Maghreb Union, formed in 1989, which includes Tunisia, Libya, Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania.

"One of the first principles is that the states bave to border each other so as to minimize problems," Sullivan said.

Saadeddin fbrahim, a sociologist, sees economics as divisive under current conditions. The disparity between nich oil states, with few people, and populous but poor nations remains a major obstacle, he

"The super-rich do not find much in the way of common economic ground with the very poor," Ibrahim said. "Therefore, they prefer not to deal with them, but to deal with other rich countries. This will create a psychological gap and socio-economic gap" between rich and poor Arabs.

He said poor Arabs are trapped between financial dependence on their rich cousins and resentment of them, thus producing a potential source of instability, violence and frus-

Ibrahim argues, however. that the Arabs should be able to integrate nations with disparate incomes just as the Europeans did. Much of the process, be said, is a matter of trade-offs between countries with surplus manpower, like Egypt, and those with extra capital, like the Gulf countries.

Walid Kazziha, a political scientist and professor of economics, said that sort of cooperation would not come soon.

Those who have money, why do they want to share it with poorer countries?" he asked. Kazziha also said they prefer to invest in Europe because it is safer. Syria Palestine fordatt [Gaza & Lebanon West Bank]

Palestinians need to take advantage of emerging principles

By Mamdouh Aker

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM During nearly 40 days in solitary confinement in an Israeli prison, I thought about where we Palestinians are as a people and where we are beading in the post-Gulf war Middle East. While we might feel that the

Israeli security fears are exaggerated, we bave to understand Jewish history, especially the Holocaust's effects on the Jewish psyche. We have to deal seriously with the Israelis' security concerns in a manner acceptable to the norms of relations between peoples and

As bad as the war's outcome has been for our demands of statehood and for PLO representation, we can still take advantage of the moral principles that have emerged. The supremacy of international law and the U.N. Security Council can be helpful tools for Palesti-

The world has talked about the Kurds' rights to determine their own future. It is certainly time that the U.S. and Israel accept Palestinian self-determination.

Such a pronouncement — a modern-day Balfour Declaration, which created Israel need not require immediate implementation. As proof of Palestinians' commitment to peace and a political settlement, we might be ready to have our rights carried out in stages. The declaration itself would ease our fears that some fsraeli elements want to drive Palestinians across the Jordan River, if not to keep us under the Israeli occupation army's domination forever. It would be a breaktbrough if the Israelis stopped calling us "residents" and instead recognised our legitimate national

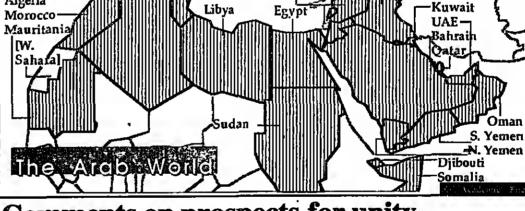
This recognition means that the Jewish settlement campaign must end. Every time f

drive from Jerusalem to Nablus, on the West Bank, to work or see my family, I am shocked at how fast the colonies are expanding. Settlements built on Arab land for exclusive use by Jews are not only an obstacle to peace but also illegal. as former President Jimmy Carter described them. It is time that President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker tell the Israelis in no uncertain terms that settlement - building in the occupied territories can't continue while all parties are seeking lasting peace.

Nor should the details of who would represent the Palestinians be an obstacle to talks. This can be solved by elections. I am sure that Palestinians, in the occupied territories and in exile, would accept a U.N. sponsored vote for their leaders. A fair election would emphasise our commitment to democracy as spelled out in our 1988 declaration of independence.

I am sure elections would prove the depth of support for the PLO and thus help the Israelis come to terms with the PLO. In that case, any agreement would include concessions only the PLO could sign on behalf of all Palestinians. Should the Palestinians and Israelis agree on any terms, then, I would think the Israelis would demand that the PLO be the group to sign. And only the PLO could deliver such a deal if it were meant both to ohlige the Palestinian people and achieve a lasting settlement to the conflict.

Mamdouh Aker is a Palestinian surgeon. He was held by the Israelis for questioning about aiding the Palestinian resistance, but was released on bail without charge on April 7 - The article is reprinted from the New York Times.



Comments on prospects for unity

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Here inent Arabs on possible unity.

Walid Arab Hashem **Economics Department** King Abdul Aziz University Sandi Arabia

Arab unity is a dream that has fascinated and aroused millions of Arabs. On the surface this dream is quite viable, if not inevitable.

This area can easily form a strong economic bloc producing most of its needs from its abundance of labour, oil, fertile land and other resources. This mass of land is also rich with history, culture and political importance.

Coming together, the Arabs will command the respect and honour which they value so much. Arabs, despite all their differences - and they differ even on what makes an Arab - are very proud people. It is this pride in their identity that is perhaps the strongest reason for the viability of Arab unity.

Fakhri Kewar Jordanian Parliament

The Arab people want unity. but the regimes are blocking the people's will. Leaders want to protect their seats of power and their acquired privileges. I think that absolute unity

between Arab states is very difficult to achieve at this time in light of the standing situation in this part of the world. Arab unity will not happen unless democracy is rooted in all Arab states. Effectively, I'm saying we have to achieve regional democracy in the separate states before aiming for a collective Arab unity.

Hassan Al Akine Political Science Department University of United Arab Emi-

Despite the common inherited factors, Arab unity is an Arab dream that cannot come true. The most important (reason) is that the Arab governments are self-imposed (and) non-

elected, and hence not

accountable to the Arab mas-

This is enhanced by the fact that, (in) the post-colonial era. independence, national identity, sovereignty and national boundaries — new phenomena - came to be associated with a greater part of the new Arab generations' mentality, making regionalism far stronger than pan-Arabism.

Abdul Rahman Al Shobally Saudi Ministry of Higher

Arab unity was a dream and objective, but it was never expected soon. The Gulf crisis added to the pessimistic view that such unity will be now even more impossible.

The Gulf problem has introduced a very severe "trust crisis." at least between the Gulf states and some other Arab countries.

The only form of Arab unity I can see is perhaps regional. such as among some Gulf Cooperation Council states ... or perhaps in the case of Palestine and Jordan, or in a form of economic regional cooperation such as the Maghreb states. Al Baki Hermassi

Sociology Department Tunis University Before the Gulf war, the whole regional system, including the

Arab League, was showing signs of exhaustion, if not collapse. Since then, the Gulf crisis and the war have dramatically divided the Arab World: its governments, its press, its countries. Instead of talking about

Arab unity, we should be talk-ing about the Latin Americanisation of the Arab World and the return of the area to some kind of imperialistic rule. Certain things have bappened, new cleavages have

appeared that have to be taken into the picture. For the time being, Arab unity is off.

Mona Makram Ebeid American University in Cairo

To propagate regional unity at a time when the Middle East is riven by the most bitter antagonisms may carry the flavour of romantic idealism.

Yet it is my opinion that the current crisis has the dimen-sion of a cataclysm that turns previous beliefs and assumptions apside down.

In this perspective, the emergence of a movement that would seek to construct regional unity on a liberal democratic basis is by no means inconceivable. The first step is political reconciliation within the aim of regional cooperation and economic development.

LETTERS

New World Order

To the Editor:

AT the beginning was the word. It was not an empty one, yet it did not reveal any concrete

message. But it worked like a drug. It gave hopes, dreams, illusions, visions — e.g. about a new order for the world. Now, some months, a lot of U.S.-U.N resolutions, and a

bloody war later, the message is there. We can no longer dream about the new order for the world, we bave to deal with the order of the new world. The same order that pushed the Indian Nation into the Indian Reservation (so much for the proper treatment of minorities) is now reaching out for the Arab Nation.

The word has a message, and the message is clear. It spells like this:

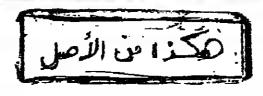
N obody E ise W ill win

We O rgamise R adical

L ong term D estruction O ur R acial

D omination E radicates R ight

> Elinor Kaiser-Mohammad P.O. Box 540-383 Abu Nuseir



By Richard Schofield

IN ACCEPTING terms for a Gulf cease-fire laid down in U.N., Resolution 687 which was passed on 3 April. Iraq has committed itself to respect the inviolability of the boundary refer-red to in the Agreed Minutes signed between Iraq and Kuwait on 4 October 1963. The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (Unikom), whose terms of reference were published on 5 April, will be responsible for finally debneating and demarcaring the Kuwait boundary referred to in those minutes.

Unikom, which will be headed by observers from the five permanent members of the Security Council, will be required to monitor and observe developments in a demilitarised zone running along the entire length of the Kuwait-Iraq land boundary (around 160 km in length) and for 40 km along the Khor Abdulla, the strategically vital waterway linking Umm Qasr and the Khor Zubair to the waters of the Gulf and separating the Kuwaiti islands of Warba and Bubiyan from the Faw peninsula in Iraq. For the entire length of the land boundary the Unikom buffer zone will extend 10 km into Iragi territory and 5 km into Kuwaiti territory, while the Khor Abdollab wilf be monitored from observation posts on both its northern (Iraqi) and sonthern (Kuwaiti) shores and also by aerial reconnaissance.

As an observation mission, similar to that in a place on the Iran-Iran boundary nearby to the north east, the mere presence of Unikom in the buffer zone will bave to suffice to deter violations of the boundary. It possesses no authority to take any obysical steps to prevent the entry of military personnel or equipment into the demilitarised zone. It is

For as long as Unikom remains in place, despite its essentially passive role, the boundary is likely to remain quiet. In the medium and long term, however, presuming the eventual departure of

Unikom, there can be no guarantees that the problems of agreeing a workable boundary line, so apparently unbridgeable during the 60-year period since fraq's admission to the League of Nations as an independent state in October 1932, will not return to seriously destabilise Kuwait-Iraq relations once more.

The claims could continue

There is a clear danger in assuming that Iraq's claims to Kuwaiti territory will disappear with a resolution of the current crisis and the removal of Saddam Hussein, if and when this occurs. In short, this unlikely, principally because Iraqwi claims to Kuwaiti territory have been pursued with remarkable consistency over the last half-century, through periods of monarchy and revolutionary rule alike. Despite providing for short-term security, the ceasefire resolution and the institution of Unikom do nothing to address the basic geographical reality which has underpinned the territorial claims and demands of successive Baghdad regimes, that is lraq's minuscule shoreline on the high sea and its long-harboured grievance at having been squeezed out of the Gulf. Essentially beginning in 1938, Iraqi claims to Kuwaiti territory

have been prosecuted on two contradictory levels. Most vociferously, if only intermittently Iraq has laid claim to the wbole of Kuwait. This has occurred with varying degrees of intensity and purpose. In 1938 Iraqi Foreign Minister Al Suwaidi made rather balf-hearted calls for Kuwait to be administered as an integral part of Iraqi territory as significant instability prevailed within Ruwait during the period of the Majlis movement. Early in 1958, with the institution of the Hasbemite union of Iraq and Jordan, Nuri Al Said requested that Britian actively support moves for the incorporation of the Al Sabah sheikhdom within the Hashemite domain. In 1961, after displaying little interest in Kuwait for nearly three years, General Qasim dramatically resurrected Iraq's historical claim to Kuwait, while

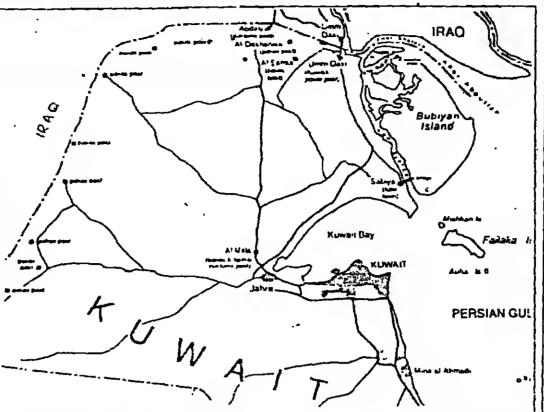
only last year Saddam Hussein utilised such arguments to justify

his conquest of the emirate. This argument is essentially historical, resting on Kuwait's incorporation within the former Ortoman province of Basra at the turn of the century. It is not difficult to rebut for historical and legal reasons. Because of its generally latent characteristics, it has been almost impossible to predict when the argument would be employed. With the exchange of ambassadors following Iraq's recognition of Kuwait in the Agreed Minutes of 1963, it seemed as though no more would be seen of the historical claim. The events of 2 August 1990 quashed this assumption and suggested that it is impossible to say for certain that the claim has disappeared for good.

Much more consistently, if certainly less dramatically, fraq has sought changes to the existing boundary, as defined by diplomatic exchanges of 1923 and 1932 and confirmed by the Agreed Minutes of 1963, which would improve its limited access to the waters of the Gulf. Typically. Iraq has demanded the cession or lease of the strategically impor-tant islands of Warba and Bubiyan, whose Kuwaiti sovereignty has seriously impaired the development to its full potential of the Khor Zubair, an important, navigable water inlet on which is situated Umm Qasr, Iraq's second dry cargo port (its first is Basra on the Shatt Al Arab waterway, the long-disputed southernmost constituent of the

lran-lraq boundary). Despite signing the 1963 agreement, apparently recognising the boundary with Kuwait on its own merits. Iraq has consistently demanded satisfaction on the islands issue before agreeing to its demarcation, long sought by Kuwait, With Kuwait traditionally refusing to consider the cession of Warba until the boundary has been demarcated, a solution to the border question has long proved elusive, intrenched in this miliar impasse.

A bad boundary There must remain doubts ab-



out the expediency of nominating the Agreed Minutes of 1963 as the basis for the final settlement of the Kuwait-Iraq boundary... All Iraq agreed to in this document was to recognise the independence and complete sovereignty of the state of Kuwait and its boundaries as specified by the 1932 exchange of correspondence. There was no detailed description of these boundaries, nor was there a map to illustrate

It is often said that there is no such thing as a bad boundary, yet the definition of Kuwait-Iraq boundary in the 1932 correspondence comes mighty close. ft was notoriously vague, constituting. with no alterations, the northern portion of the "Green Line" of the unratified and redundant Anglo-Ottoman Convention of 1913. It contains no more precise references to the boundary then "along the Batin" and "just south of Safwan" and for years no one knew, exactly, where the boundary ran along the ground.

For nearly two decades all that marked it was a wooden post which had been placed by the British authorities at a specified distance south of the most southerly date palm at Safwan. When the post was removed at the

beginning of the second world war. and the Iragis then planted additional date palms south of Safwan, the original location of the boundary proved impossible to rediscover, underlining ils woefully inadequate definition. It took until the end of 1951 for British to come to a final conclu-sion about what delimitation the 1932 correspondence had meant 10 introduce.

This interpretation, offered to fraq as a basis for demarcation in December 1951, has since come to be accepted by most observers as the international boundary between fraq and Kuwait. Yet it remains all too conspicuously an effort to patch up the poor definition introduced by the 1932 correspondence. However, the 1951 interpretation finds no mention in the Agreed Minutes of 1963. As a consequence the Iraqi government. by accepting Paragraph Five of the correfire resolution, is not bound to any one interpretation of the boundary fixed by the 1932 exchange of correspond-

Whilst on the subject of the 1963 correspondence, it might be added that had Itaq been genuinely reconciled to the existing boundary, then there would have been provisions in the text of the

tion and demarcation. The fact that there were not suggests that the boundary was not considered in any detail in the run-up to the treaty or perhaps that Iraq still hankered after Warba and Bubiyan. Within only a few years Iraq returned to its demands that the islands should be ceded or leased by Kuwait. For as long as Unikom remains

stationed on the Iraq-Kuwait border, its poor definition is not likely to present problems. However, the U.N. guarantee of the border is only a short-term security measure which makes no attempt to get to the heart of the long-standing and previously intractable dispute over the definition of the Kuwait-Iraq boundary and the islands of Warba and Bubiyan. It remains to be seen in the medium and long term whether Iraq can finally reconcile itself to its geographically disadvantageous position at the head of the Gulf.

Richard Schofield is the author of Kuwait and Irag: historical claims and territorial dispute, published by the Middle East Programme at the Royal Institute of International Affairs. The article is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

West Bank, and under heavy

military escort, hundreds of

Israeli peace activists drove in

convoys along Jewish settlements

in the occupied West Bank on

Saturday to protest against gov-

ernment building there.

foreigners. Agreed Minutes for its triangula-

> don't know the effects." The council, the government

agency overseeing all environ-mental operations, bas no budget or emergency supplies to conduct clean-up work. Most of the 30 staff members are office workers.

Environmentalists have become increasingly frustrated with the Kuwaiti government's approach to ecological problems inflicted by Iraq during its occu-

would focus attention on the environment at last." said Rick horpe of Eartistade in Historia lu. Hawaii-based environmental group. "But it hasn't. There is very little we see being done.'

In Kuwait city, black flakes of burned oil fall from the sky, leaving distinctive speckles on car windsbields and the white robes

they may not be filtered out by nostrils and could attach them-

The Israeli army approved the protest but barred activists from

snow in the Himilayas. Kuwait City has experienced four temperature inversions in recent weeks - more than it

emissions to climb towards the upper atmosphere, thereby trialisation.

many ways," said Thorpe.

grade it with a buildozer. "A day later the beach was full of garbage. It makes me very pessimistic," He said.

ese entre

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anticipated that Unikom's mission will cost \$83m for the first six months alone.

occupied territories.

Prime Minister (Continued from page 1)'C'" "

But the PLO has been resisting attempts to exclude it from the peace process and insists that the Palestinian negotiating teamshould be appointed by the organisation and should include Palestinians from the occupied territories and the diaspora.

"There can be no genuine peace conference without a Palestinian representation," said Mr. Abed Rabo. "The delegation should include Palestinians from inside and outside the occupied PLO officials said that the idea

of setting up a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation was not discussed at the PCC but that none of the Palestinian groups has opposed closer coordination with The officials said that Mr. Ara-

fat will arrive in Amman soon, heading a delegation representing all the Palestinian groups to start talks with His Majesty King Hus-Mr. Arefat is evidently trying

to secure the backing of all the major factions within the organisation for any agreement or understanding he reaches with In 1983 the PLO chairman had

to drop an initial agreement be had reached with Jordan when the Palestinian leadership refused to ratify it, while he faced strong opposition to the 1985 Amman accord from the Palestinian groups including his own Fatch The Amman accord, which in-

volved a joint Jordanian-Palestinian strategy, called for an based on all of the United Nations resolutions including 242 and 338.

The accord fell through mainly as a result of differences on the interpretation of the articles concerning the joint delegation and future Jordanian links with any Palestinian entity after an Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza.

Most Palestinian groups, in-cluding some Fatch leaders, opposed a negotiating team headed by Jordan and did not accept confederation with Jordan unless it involved an independent Palestinian state.

The gap between the two sides widened as the differences continued and a year after the signing of the joint strategy.

Jordanian officials had said then that the King's declaration of the accord and the King public-

did not amount to the annulment Of the accord, but the stens which followed, including the closure of the Fatch offices in Amman, were interpreted by the PLO as a practical Jordanian cancellation of the agreement.

In April 1987 Arafat finally agreed to formally annul the Amman accord in hope of reunifying the PLO which had suffered serious splits over the peace process

But since then the attitude of Palestinian groups - mainly the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) — has dramatically shifted in favour of coordination with Jordan.

Even though Jordan and the PLO do not necessarily hold identical views on means to move the peace process, both sides will not compromise on two major issues: First, that any negotia-tions should be based on the principle of exchanging land for peace, which Israel has so far rejected. Second, that there should be an immediate halt to the construction of Israeli settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip: Israeli officials have Kurdish zone repeatedly rejected any linkage between the settlements and the peace process.

Furthermore, the idea of a confederation with Jordan once resented by many Palestinians -- is now seen as a welcomed option by an increasing number of Palestinians. A recent opinion poll has shown that at least 60 per cent of the Palestimians in the West Bank support confederation with Jordan.

But analysts say that both Jordan and the PLO might not press for a joint - at least public position on the issue of the joint negotiating delegation and a future confederation as they will both wait for the Israeli stand before embarking on such a

Judging by statements made by Jordanian and Palestinian offian and Palestinian officials, both sides do not expect the Israeli government to accept any kind of territorial concessions and anticipate that this intransigence is more than capable of thwarting the peace process.

(Continued from page, 1) bishops told the Pope "about the situation of the population and of Christians after the tragedy of the (Gulf) war."

We asked for the help of the Vatican to solve problems. In the first place the embargo which prevents our nation from living. We can't live from charity alone. The people have a right to live."

Bidawid said the Pope agreed to the request. There was no immediate confirmation from the

> Spain, Italy send troops

Two planeloads of Spanish paratroopers arrived in Turkey Saturday as the multinational force aiding Iraqi Kurdish refugees expanded further, officials

Two U.S. air force C-5 planes carrying 126 Spanish paratroopers landed at the joint Turkish-U.S. base at Incirlik on Saturday, said a U.S. spokeswoman at the ase, Capi. Marcella Adams, Under a Spanish request, the two American planes will make 12 trips to carry men and supplies from the Spanish paratrooper unit Agrupacion Alcala.

On Sunday, 900 Italian soldiers plus 120 Italian paratroopers are scheduled to join the "provide comfort" operation at Zakho, the site of the first allied-built refugee camp in northern Iraq.
Military units from Belgium

and Luxembourg are also scheduled to arrive in the coming weeks, according to a spokeswoman at the Incirlik base.

EC

(Continued from page 1) should show flexibility and realism so as to bring a climate of confidence favourable to the starting of negotiations.

The 12 strongly urged the Israeli government neither to allow nor encourage the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories. Israeli activists protest too

At Revava, in the occupied

Settler blocked roads to their colonies, and some brandished guns, buried rocks and made obscene gestures at the 300 activists from the Peace Now Move-

This is where your money is buried and where peace is being buried," veteran Peace Now activist Galia Golan said on a bill overlooking Revava settlement.

raising placards and chanting near the settlements. A group of ultra-nationalist Jews hastily set up Revava during the night last month, just before U.S. Secretary of State Baker

arrived in Jerusalem on a regional The settlers said Revava was a essage to Baker, who has said

the settlements are an obstacle to

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Pollution worsens, but Kuwait still lacks clean-up plan

By Greg Myre The Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY - Oil and raw sewage are still spilling into the Gulf. A river of crude a mile long runs through the desert. Smoke from oil well fires chokes the city on 100-degree days.

Despite an unprecedented environmental disaster that is getting worse. Kuwait's government still lacks a comprehensive cleanup plan and is relying almost entirely on volunteer efforts by

In addition, the government bas issued no substantive information on the potential longterm dangers of carcinogens in the blanket of black smoke that often covers Kuwait city.

"In the short term, we think it is safe for normal people living in residential areas," Ibrahim Hadi, head of the environment protection council, said in a interview recently. "In the long term, we

"We thought these disasters

worn by Kuwaiti men. Many scientists and doctors consider the particulates the greatest danger to human bealth from the burning oil. Scientists say the visible particulates are probably too big to be inhaled. But if smaller ones are present,

selves to the lungs.

However, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and

the United Nations Environment Programme are among several groups that bave tested the air and said they found no evidence

of immediate danger to bealthy Environmentalists bave expressed concern that the summer beat - temperatures already are reaching 400c - will cause oil fire

spreading pollution on a wider Already, there has been black rain in Turkey and Iran and balck

normally bas in a year. During inversions, hot air is trapped below the cooler cloud of smoke, which gradually sinks onto the "The inversions have lasted for only a few hours," said Hadi. "But if they stay for days, only God knows what will happen."
Sami Al Yakoob, a Kuwaiti with a doctorate in environmental chemistry, says that until the government knows the full extent of the potential dangers it should evacuate towns near the oil fields,

distribute protective masks and

issue warnings on days when the

smoke is bad Hadi said the government bas no plans to take any of these Some 3,000 barrels of oil are

still spilling into the Gulf daily via broken pipelines, sunken tankers and damaged port containers. according to Thorpe. The Gulf oil spill, one of the targest every at more than 3 million barrels, was caused by

Iraqis intentionally pumping oil into the Gulf and damaged inflicted in allied bombing attacks. Kuwait is doing virtually nothing to contribute to the cleanup effort on its coast, where raw sewage also is flowing into the Gulf and producing a rotten egg

Hadi said the Iragis stole booms and oil skimming equipment, and his small staff is fearful of Iraqi mines near the coast.

But Thorpe and an Earthtrust colleague, Randy Thomas, said they found on unused boom as the port of Shoates, they spent one Friday and Saturday positioning it to protest att a luary at Whiren, considered and a

prepared by the g. ... tument to deal with oil spills.

'it's a good, elaborate plan, but we think we are the only people implementing it," said Thomas.

The oil slicks have killed thousands of birds along the coasts of Kuwait and northern Saudi Arabia. The damage also bas affected the migration of millions of birds beading north from Africa to Europe, Iran and the

southern Soviet Union. Just north of Kuwait city, hundreds of thousands of birds would usually gather at high tide, but Thorpe said be counted only 30

on a recent day. In Kuwait's burning oil fields. many wells are spewing oil that create lakes of several acres. There is one river of oil a mile

long and five to 10 wide. Much of that oil is likely to be baked into aspbalt by the desert Even before the current crises,

Kuwait suffered environmental damage from overgrasing by goats and sheep in its desert greenbelt and the elimination of coastal wetlands through indus-We see a lack of environmen-

tal concern by Kuwaitis in so He cited a painstaking effort by French foreign legionaires to sweep a beach of mines, then

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you are the one who does attend to

your obligations in a scrupulous and painetaking fashion and by doing so you gain much backing.

LIERA: (September 23 to October 22) Entertain associates at some attractive place for in so doing you find you gain considerable admiration from them and get them to go along with your new plan.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to Novem-

ber 21) Enthusiastically get at your project and add some colour and charm to your environment whether it be at home, an office,

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

December 21) You awaken with a most happy feeling of wellbeing if you are living in accord with your planetary position and can enjoy

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You need to entertain

or do something to have more charm and comfort and colour at

your residence now so be sure to

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Pebru-

ary 19) You are positively brilliant

lost so go out on the town and get allies to what you want the most.

PISCES: (February 20 to March

20) Money can now flow into your

pocket or bank account by the

ideas you get now especially those arising from entertainment or

By Harris

day and not a moment should be

officially or wherever.

atever comes up.

do so without delay.

HOROSCOPE FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A

good day to enjoy through social activities and to plan a well round-ed course of action for the weeks ahead. Take time to show your affection to your household and

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19)

You certainly are under very be-nign and happy influences from-early today so make a point to get

out in the social whirl and impress

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

Many private interests are excel-lent for you now and it is a very

good time for some happy roman-tic expression and for pleasing all about you.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Now you are able to get together with friends and acquaintances and to get their good wishes in almost

any direction that you wish to go

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) Whatever you wish in the world of outside activity can be

yours so show your talents and your respect for bigwigs and prom-inent persons.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Be

alert to those new openings that are now arising that give you the

chance to enjoy yourself and to make big headway towards out

VIRGO: (August 22 to September

22) This is your time to show that

THE BETTER HALF.

Chinese win mixed doubles gold in Table Tennis Championships

CHEA. Japan (R) — China's Liu Wei experienced golden highs and despairing lows in the space of four hours at the World Table Tennis Championships ≅aturday.

Liu. unseeded, defeated third seed Hyun Jung-Hwa of Korea in the women's singles and won the mixed doubles gold with Wang Tao but then crashed out of the អ៊ីរាងខ្លាំ in the quarter-finals.

The 21-year old former Chinese junior champion hit top form to beat Hvun 21-14 13-21 21-17 13-21 21-17 and then immediately combined with Wang to overcome compatriots Xie Chaojie and Chen Zihe 21-14 2t-19 21-14 in a one-sided mixed coubles final.

But the 1988 French Open champion could not raise her zame again and succumbed to number 11 seed Chan Tan-Lui of Hong Kong 19-21 21-19 21-17 13-21 21-13 in the singles.

Chan, who moved to Hong Kong from mainland China four years ago, will play second seed Deng Yaping of China in the semifinals Sunday.

Deng overcame the challenge of Csilla Batorfi of Hungary, the sole European representative in the last eight, 15-21 21-16 21-17

PARIS (R) — Ben Johnson and

Carl Lewis could race each other

in France on July 1 in their first

Firect meeting since the fated

1988 Olympics 100 metres final.

was are for their amounts to

dress real areal Saturdy in the

'anygeral international America's

Cap class world championships.

and two days of match racing,

everything and nothing have been

proven on the road to the 1992

So, let the gamesmanship be-

"It all starts all over again (after the Worlds)," said Gary

Jobson, who will skipper one of

the two boats cotered by

The real action starts to Janu-

Some syndicates are skipping

the World Championships, either

W choice or because their boats

aren't finished. Others will be

cailing in borrowed boats while

construction proceeds on their

Dennis Conner, the defending

America's Cup skipper, has been

sailing his new \$3-million Stars

and Stripes for less than a month.

Although he's downplayed the

importance of the Worlds, be is

skippers, doesn't want to tip his

show everything you have?" Con-

ner said. "What would you

For example, if a team has a

special sail, it would use it briefly,

if at all, during the cham-pionships. Otherwise, it would be

But Conner, like some other

"Why in the world would you

expected to compete.

hand in this event.

ary with the beginning of the

challenger and defender trials.

The finals are next May.

America's Cup.

/ merica-3.

cwn yachts.

After five days of fleet racing

A spokesman for the French

Securitries participate in

the same of the same

wacht race dress rehearsal

The other semifinal will be a repeat of the 1989 final between reigning champion Qiao Hong of China and Korea's Li Bun-Hui. Qiao played well below her

best against Hong Kong's Chai Po-Wa hut the number eight seed's amazing inconsistency vir-tually handed Qiao a 23-25 21-12 21-14 21-9 victory. Li. who won the first ever

match for the unified Korean women's team last week, took five games to down former Chinese star Geng Lijuan.

Geng, the 1985 world doubles champion now living in Canada. pulled back a two-game deficit before tiring in the decider. Li won 21-16 21-13 18-21 17-21 21-

Chen Xinhua, a former 1987 world team champion with China but now wearing fan England shirt, reached the fourth round of the men's singles and has the opportunity Sunday to put one over his old teammates.

He will play number four seed Ma Wenge, the 1990 Asian Games champion who rose to prominence after Chen left for England in 1988.

"I have a good chance against him although he is a tough play-

Athletics Federation, which is re-

sponsible for the Grand Prix in

Villeneuve d'Ascq near Lille,

said Friday that Johnson, back

from a two-year ban for doping,

and his American rival had been

need on recent heavy, the

World Championships are

meaningless from a cometitioo

standpoint. None of the top four

boats in the 1986 12-metre World

Championships made it to the America's Cup finals the next

Conner remained in Hawaii to

train and Australia's Iain Murray

simply, watched. Conner and

Murray reached the finals, which

Conner woo 4-0 to regain the cup

reviews, the Worlds will be impor-

tant at least to those who will

design and build the next genera-

tion of IACC boats that will be

of yacht," said Chris Dickson, a

New Zealander who skippers the

Nippon challenge boat. "They've

The IACC boats, made of

fiber-reinforced composite mate-

rials, are formulated for perform-

ance and speed in San Diego's

moderate breezes. Compared to

the 12-metre class, the IACC

class boats are 20 per cent longer,

30 per cent lighter and have I0

America-3, the only other

American syndicate, will be racing its 2-week-old boat plus one it

Italy's Il Moro Di Venezia has

entered two boats. One boat each

from New Zeland, Japan and

France are entered, and Spain

will sail a boat it chartered from

per ceut more sail area.

bought from the French.

New Zealand.

"These are a brand-new class

While the skippers give mixed

he had lost in 1983.

used in 1992.

world."

tested during practical

Johnson, Lewis may meet in France

an English woman but still travels on a Chinese passport.

"I will be one of the first times I've played a top Chinese since moving to England. It's an important match.

The unseeded Chen, a singles semifinalist in 1987, reached the fourth round by ousting 13th seed Zoran Primorae of Yugoslavia 21-14 21-11 21-18.

World champion Jan-Ove Waldner of Sweden was angry at himself for dropping a game against Dmitri Mazunov of the Soviet Union.

Waldner kicked the table after dropping the third game but regained his composure to win 21-19 21-12 18-21 21-11.

"It will be tough defending the title as all matches are difficult. like this one today," said Wald-ner, who lost three times during the team competition.

Meanwhile teams will gain no advantage by deliberately throwing matches at future world championships, the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) announced Saturday.

The ITTF decided to change the playing format after a controversy during the men's team event when Germany pulled out

Asked whether the contacts

He refused to give further de-

tails. "We have contacts with a

number of athletes, including

(Soviet pole vaulter) Sergei Bub-

ka and (Moroccan middle-

distance runner) Said Aouita,"

"But nothing is definite yet."

He said more details should be

Johnson beat Lewis in the

Seoul Olympics but the Canadian

then had his gold medal taken

away and was stripped of the world record. His form on indoor

tracks since his ban ended has

Lewis was awarded the gold

medal and credited with the

world record for the time of 9.92

A rematch between the two

would be certain to involve large

fees for both men, who have

already agreed to meet in Malmo."

Sweden on Aug. 5 before an

expected confrontation later that

month at the World Cham-

Meanwhile a Canadian Judge

agreed Friday to postpone the

trial of sprinter Ben Johnson on

an assault charge until Oct. 21 to

allow him to compete this sum-

mer without interruption.

seconds he set in Seoul.

pionships in Tokyo.

announced on May 14.

been mediocre.

involved a race against each

other, the spokesman said:

"Maybe."

of a match with China while leading 2-0.
The Germans accused China of

deliberately wanting to lose to avoid playing defending cham-pions Sweden in the knockout stages. Sweden went on to retain the title Tuesday while China lost in the quarterfinals.

At future World Championships, group qualifiers would go into a random draw for the knockout stages. ITTF President Ichiro Ogimura said.

The format at this year's championships virtually allowed teams to choose their final-round oppo-

"The new system will encourage all teams to try desperately to

win." Ogimura said. Ogimura also said Mexico had withdrawn as the host for the 1993 World Championships because of insufficient facilities. China. South Korea and

Sweden are among the early candidates to replace Mexico. A final decision will be taken within three months after new

bids are discussed, said ITTF Secretary General Tony Brooks. The 1995 World Championships will be held in Bel-

Kaiserslautern

BONN (R) - Captain Stefan

Kuntz struck as his club, who struggled to avoid relegation last seasoo, battled back from 2-0 down to stretch their lead at the top to five points. Second-placed Werder Brumen face an andward tes! against Bayer Leverhusen while Bayern Munich, third, must travel to in-form Hamburg Sun-

Ivan Lendl

Lendl, who skipped the daycourt season last year to concen-trate on Wimbledon, said he was not disappointed by the defeat in his first tournament on the surface for two years.

"He was in better form and played very well," he said. "I'm gradually getting better on clay."

Seles, Graf storm into Hamburg final

HAMBURG (AP) — Monica Seles and Steffi Graff, the no. 1 and no. 2 players in the world, posted straight-set victories Saturday to advance to the final of the Open German Tennis tournament.

Lendl bows

Bavarian

MUNICH (R) - World number

three Ivan Lendl crashed 6-4, 7-5

to unheralded Swede Magnus

Gustafsson in the semifinals of

the \$250,000 Bavarian Open

Gustafsson, world number 32,

showed no signs of nerves as he

outplayed the Czechosiovak in

The Swede plays Argentine

elay-court specialist Guillermo

Perez-Roldan in Sunday's final.

Perez-Roldan thrashed

Sweden's Christian Bergstrom 6-

the 90-minute match.

out of

Open

Saturday.

Seles encountered some trouble in the second set but beat third-seeded Arantxa Sanchez-

Vicario of Spain 6-2, 6-4. Graf, who had topped the rankings for a record 186 weeks before Seles dislodged her : in March, cruised past Judith Wies-

ner of Austria, 6-0, 6-1. Even if she loses Sunday's final, Seles will remain no. 1.

In their only meeting since Seles became the no. 1 on March 11, Graf beat the Florida-based Yugoslav in the final of the San Antenio : pureautent for her first title of the year.

"I'll do my best to win. I'd like to win here," Seles said. "But if see is tetter tomorrow she'll win

and she'll deserve it." Graf, a four-time winner of the Hamburg tournament, over-whelmed Wiesner in 41 minutes.

The German balsted through the first set and won 22 points in a row as she raced to a 5-0 lead in the second.

Following a brief break caused by rain, Wiesner won her first game, but Graf wrapped up the match in the next.

After cruising through the first set, Seles committed a doublefault to give Sanchez-Vicario a 2-1 lead in the second. The two traded breaks in the next three games and Seles finally beld for a

4-3 lead. The Spaniard saved two break points in the next game, but fell behind 0-40 while serving to stay in the match. The Yugoslav won on her first match point when a forehand by Sanchez-Vicario sailed long.

"I hit some pretty good returns today, my only problem was the cold weather," Seles said. "It was a great match, we hit a lot of great points. She is such a

Graf said: "Monica is the number one in the world, I have nothing to lose. She has."



I'm wearing this perfume. I'll ten bottles."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME, by Henri Arriold and Bob Lee Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. LAPID RYTUL GROAFE HOW TO LOSE WEIGHT TEMPORARILY. SINIST Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as sug-

gested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Jumbles: MAJOR KNACK SAFARI BRIDLE

Answer: Good manners might be defined as the ability to put up with - - - BAD ONES

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH 1990 Tribune Media Services, In

AVOID THE PROBLEM Both vulnerable. South deals.

A 843 A K 10 2 EAST WEST **◆** 762 09274 4 Q8742 SOUTH 4 KOJ 1095

NORTH

The bidding: North East South West Pass 2 NT Pass Pass Pass Pass Opening lead: Four of Being alert to danger is well and good. Not taking adequate precau-tions is just plain sitly.

With an honor in every suit and a source of tricks. South might have done better to select three no trump as the final contract despite the unbalanced hand. That game would have been impregnable no matter how the opposing cards were dis-tributed. However, this was dealt at rubber bridge and the t00 honors proved to be an irresistible

attraction.
West led a fourth-best club, which placed declarer in a good news/bad news predicament. De-

clarer's problems in the suit were solved, but now club ruffs threatened the safety of the contract, and almost certainly it was East who was

short when South played low from dummy at tock one and the queen didn't appear.

Declarer immediately started on trumps. West took the ace perforce and returned the eight of clubs, a suit preference signal for the highe side suit, in this case hearts. A club ruff, heart to the ace and another club ruff led to the game's instant demise.

A most unlucky contract. The trumps were 3-1 and West held both major aces to provide just enough entries to sink four spades. Even so, declarer could have given himself a better shot at the contract, assuming the inferences drawn from the opening lead are correct.

After winning the first trick, de-clarer should cash the ace and king of diamonds, discarding a heart from hand, and then continue with the ten of diamonds. If East produces a low diamond, declarer must ruff and hope that either trumps break or East has one of the missing aces. But when East covers with th queen, declarer cao discard the king of hearts and West can give East only one club ruff. In all, declarer loses one trump, one diamond [!] and a club ruff.

stays on top

grade, Yugoslavia.

Kuntz hit a last-minute winner as Kaiserslautern sustained their German first division soccer title ambitions with a 3-2 victory over

U.S. stars to miss Pan American Games

RALEIGH, North Carolina (R) - Olympic stars Carl Lewis and Janet Evans and a number of other top U.S. athletes will bypass this summer's Pan American Games to concentrate on other events, according to U.S.

While top-ranked U.S. teams are expected in baskerball, boxing, baseball and diving, key performers in athletics, swimming and gymnastics will skip the Aug. 2-18 games in Havana and prepare instead for competitions their federations say are more important.

Judge Bill Babe of the Outario "It will not be a front-line U.S. Court's Provincial Division said team accross the board, and it trial dates were available in June, never has been, in spite of the but agreed with the defence domination of the games by the lawyer that Johnson should be United States," said U.S. Olymable to complete his schedule in pic Committee spokesman Mike Europe and the United States. Moran. 'There are too many

The conflicts, which include world and regional championships, the World Studeot Games and the lucrative European athletics circuit, have chipped away at the prestige of the games, others said.

"It's just oow a major meet," Joe Douglas, Lewis's business manager, told Reuters.

The most prominent (athletics) meet this year will be the world championships, then the invitational meets (in Europe) where the athletes are paid and will meet the best competition. Douglas said in a telephone inter-

Even Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson has said no to the games, which is expected to draw some 6.650 athletes and officials from 39 countries.

teammate Leroy Burrell in an eagerly anticipated 100-metre race on Ang. 5 in Malmo, Sweden, that conflicts with the Pan Am Games' athletics sche-Sprint star Michael Johnson,

The former world record-

holder will face Lewis and U.S.

two-time Olympic hurdles champion Roger Kingdom and 1988 gold medallists Joe Deloach and Steve Lewis also will be in Europe or preparing for the world championships, in Tokyo Aug. 24 through Sept. 1.

"It's a 'R' team for same Pete Cava, a spokesman for the Athletics Congress, the U.S. governing body for athletics. "But in some ways our 'B' team would be an 'A' team in many countries." In swimming, the best U.S. talent will be heading north, not

south, in August.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp







Peanuts









I CAN'T HEAR YOU .. IT'S TOO DARK OUTSIDE

THE Daily Crossword by Rena M. Campbell



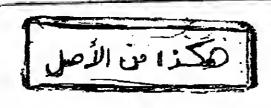


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Hollywood glitz edges out steel in Dow index

man of steel - here comes Mickey Mouse.

The Walt Disney Co. joins Wall Street's premiere index Monday, replacing USX Corp., the company founded hy steel king Andrew Carnegie, io another sign of America's conversion from a manufacturing to a service economy.

"An entertainment company is replacing a smokestack company," said John Prestbo, one of the Wall Street Journal editors who helps select companies for the Dow Jones industrial average

"We're in a post-industrial age where services are more sought after. We wanted to reflect that in the Dow," said Prestbo, a day after the change was announced.

Disney joins the elite 30-share index with Caterpillar Inc. and J.P. Morgan and Co., the first commercial hank to enter the world's most widely-watched stock barometer.

USX Corp., founded at the turn of the century, made its exit Friday, one of three stocks ousted by the Dow Jones Co. as consumer-oriented companies outpace manufacturing titans.

Stocks in the Dow index are picked by editors of the journal, published by Dow Jones. Prestbo, who is the journal's markets editor, said the changes were not a radical departure.

Retailers Sears, Roebuck and Co. and Woolworth Co. have been in the Dow in 1928. In 1982, American Express Co. joined the ranks and three years later cigarette and food giant Philip Morris Co. Inc. and McDonald's Corp. arrived. In 1987, the Coca-Cola Co. made its debut.

"The service part of the economy has grown a lot in the past decade or so. Entertainment has become a big focus in peoples' lives," Prestbo said.

Soviet Union's giant Donbass

coalfield have called off a nine-

week strike and almost all the pits

will be working from Sunday, a

strike committee spokesman said

Miners at only five of the 127

pits in the Ukrainian field, the

second largest in the Soviet Un-

ion after Kuzbass in Siberia, were

refusing to go back, Vladimir Minyenko said by telephone from

Miners' leaders in Kuzbass

have said they expected their

strike to end next week, after

Friday.

ä

Soviet miners end strike

in 2nd biggest coalmine

MOSCOW (R) - Miners in the completion of a deal transferring

Saturday, May 4, 1991 Central Bank official rates

Buy Sell

682.0 686.0

389.7 461.9

from foreign manufacturers, increased leisure time and the rise of two-income families for boosting the service sector. The revamped Dow - a very different economic harometer from the 11stock index Charles Dow created in 1884 — mirrors that shift. Disney couldn't have been hap-

"We at Disney are delighted and thrilled to he nominated to the ranks of America's leadership companies," Disney Chairman Michael Eisner said in a statement. "This recognition stems in part from the growing impact and popularity the entire American entertainment industry has attained."

USX was silent on its final day in the Dow.

Dow Jones said it dumped USX as the firm was splitting its stock in two, reflecting its steel and energy holdings. Both businesses are already represented in the average.

But the decision also reflects the primacy of the consumer rather than basic industry - in today's economy. Spending by Americans accounts for twothirds of economic growth, and as leisure bas grown into a hig money-maker, companies that play to consumers have boomed.
With the recession bining deep,

hundreds of thousands of workers in the industrial beartland have been laid off. The service sector has remained far more resilient to

The leisure ethic epitomised by Disneyland - which has been dubbed "a metaphor for America" — was an obvious choice for the widely-watched Dow, said

Disney's stock also got a big kick out of the news, jumping \$2.75 to \$120.625 on the New York Stock Exchange

tral government to Boris Yeltsin's

Mineworkers struck to support

a variety of economic and politic-

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 491.2
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 Outen guilder
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 Swedish crown
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 Belgian franc (for 101
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control of the pus from

Russian Federation.

Swiss Banking Commission ends loophole on anonymous accounts

the cames of the cliect in the

Experts say the main value of

the move will be as a potential

weapon against tax defrauders.

The extent to which it will help is

The so-called Form B that pro-

vided for this anonymity will be

abolished on July 1. Banks will

have until Sept. 30, 1992 to ask

current Form B depositors to

identify their clients. In the case

of a refusal the banks are re-

quired to stop the business rela-

Switzerland's powerful banks

long resisted the abolition of

Form B, arguing that it was un-

necessary and that monied clients

seeking discretion would merely

turn to Luxembourg and Liech-

tenstein, Switzerland's tiny neigh-

The banks dropped their

opposition after talks with regula-

bour, as alternatives.

however unclear.

event of criminal proceedings.

GENEVA (AP) — The Swiss Banking Commission has announced a new law that will clamp down on anonymous bank accounts to help rid the country of its image as a safe haven for ill-gotten gains.

The law, which was published Friday and takes effect in July, closes a loophole that allowed lawyers and fiduciary trustees in certain cases to deposit funds on behalf of their clinets without disclosing the clients' identities.

Bot the law will have no impact on the most notorious on-going legal wrangle — the struggle by the Philippines government to recover funds stashed away by the late president Ferdinand Marcos and his associates.

The law is also unlikely to shed any more light on unconfirmed rumours that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has fortunes stashed in Switzerland. The main Swiss banks have denied they hold any funds of President Saddam and the Swiss government says it has no grounds to launch any inves-

Nor will the law make any

tory authorities earlier this year, althoogh professional groups repbered Swiss accounts. The identiresenting lawyers and trustees ty of such depositors is known to fought the plans to the end. a small circle of officials within a The regulatory banking combank, who are obliged to reveal

mission had argued that the Form B provisions interfered with the ability of banks to meet the demands of the "due diligence" clause of the country's tecent money-laundering law.

Under the law, banks and financial companies are required to assure the identity of their depositors.

The law, introduced last August, made money-laundering a crime for the first time io Switzer-

In a further effort to ease the country's traditional banking secrecy, the government in March also proposed that finan-cial officials should have a legal right to report suspicious dealings to authorities

It suggested legislation be extended to cover companies and called for greater powers for investigating magistrates to seize suspicious assets. The proposals are still under consideration. Friday's announcement, which was widely expected, will not ease the frustration of the Philippines government currently trying to recover funds it says

حكدًا من الأصل

belong to the Filipino people. The return of more than \$340 million in Marcos assets hinges on Manila meeting conditions set by Switzerland's supreme court last

This said the Philippine government must open proceedings against the late dictator's wife Imelda within a year. It said Manila must guarantee that Mrs. Marcos would receive a fair trial conforming to Swiss standards and that a Philippines' court must subsequently issue a "legally valid" judgment.

During a visit to Bern last mooth, the Philippines' prosecutor-general Francisco Chavez accused Swiss authorities of making impossible demands.

Switzerland froze Marcos assets and granted the Philippines legal assistance after he was deposed in 1986.

pean and Japanese companies. They will have preferential treatment as regards the boycott."

destroyed by the Iraqis would be reviewed. "Our policy is to reduce boycott restrictions as regards the current companies. They will be studied." He did not elaborate.

Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. "We will ask for a review of the Arah boycott laws."

Ghanem said tariff agreements between Kuwait and pro-Iraqi Arab states were "frozen". "They will not have preferential treatment ... as to what will happen in the future I don't know but I expect the situation will not be as it was in the past."

banks Spain unifies state-owned

MADRID, Spain (AP) - The envernment approved the creation of Spain's largest hank corporation Friday by hringing under one roof all state-owned and controlled banks, Economy Minister Carlos Solchaga said.

The new corporation was set up to give greater competitiveness in the European single market of 1993, when all harriers to the flow of capital, labour, goods and serives are to be eliminated within the 12-member European Community (EC). Solchaga said the cahinet

approved the new bank holding group through a decree that named the concern Corporation Bancaria de Espana S.A. The new bank group will have

total assets of more than 8 trillion peseras (\$80 billion), making it

the nation's largest financial in-stitution by far, he said.

Aid donors

pledge \$2.3b

The corporation now controls 2,300 hank offices across Spain. Europe, the United States and Latin America and employs just over 19.000 people.

In a change from current practice, the EC single market act will permit any bank licensed to oper-. ate within one of the EC member states to operate in any other EC

"The action is not a pute, tough merget, although different mergers may occur within the group," Solchaga said, "Rather, the government thought it advantageous now to bring all the state-held bank groups under one roof to prepare for the future." The new entity will control 11.7

per cent of the Spanish hanking market, he said. The new corporation will hring under one toof the Banco Exteriot de Espana, the Caja Postal Savings Bank and the Official Credit Institute formed by the Banco de Credito Industrial. Banco de Credito Local, Banco Hipotecatio and the Banco de Credito Agricola.

Banco Exterior de España controls several other smaller, regional hanks and last year posted net profits of 13.9 billinn pesetas (\$119 million), up 24 per cent. Solchaga said the only pure

merger will come soon between the Banco Exterior, with longtime expertise in foreign trade financing, and the Bunco de Credito Industrial (BCI), which specialises in financing large industrial projects.

He said Banco Exterior planned to absorb BCI. The Banco de Credito Local

(BCL) specialises in long-term loans to Spanish local and region-

Banco Hipotecario, the nation's leading mortgage bank. made loans last year toraling 225 hillion pesetas (\$2.25 billion). and posted new profit of 14 billion pesetas (\$140 million).

Solchaga has long favoured the

creation of a giant state bank working under the same strict conditions as Spain's hig seven private hanks. His strong support for higger Spanish banks led two of them to form the country's largest private bank in 1988, Banco Bilbao Vizcava. Over the past few years, the market-oriented socialist govern-

ment has eliminated almost all privileged access of statecontrolled banks to cheaper state funds and subsidies, a practice employed since the end of the 1936-39 Spanish civil war.

Americans shift to self-employment WASHINGTON (Agencies) — surprise ro many economists, who it is encouraging particularly bad predicted several more since the economists and pundits

to Pakistan PARIS (R) — International donors Friday pledged \$2.3 billion aid for Pakistan and another

al demands, ranging from higher wages to the resignation of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. \$174 million to help Afghan refugees in the country, the World Ten days ago, Prime Minister Bank said. Valentin Paylov said the strike, which has crippled the steel in-The bank said in a statement dustry and other sectors, had cost that Pakistan expected to record

the Soviet Union four billion "commendable" economic growth of about 5.5 per cent roubles (more than \$6.5 billion at the official exchange rate). during the 1991-1992 financial year beginning in July, when the aid programme is to begin. AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES.

It said the donor countries and organisations urged Pakistan to emphasise social programmes and the environment.

Donors agreed that long-term improvement in Pakistan's living conditions was being adversely affected by high population

to 6.6 per cent in April from 6.8 per cent in March, its first decline in almost a year, the Labour Department said Friday.

The better-than-expected jobless rate reflected a larger number of Americans working for themselves, it said.

But the recession continued to squeeze businesses, which trimmed their workforces for the nioth cooseentive month. although at a slowing rate. Payrolls outside the farm sector

shrank by 124,000 in April after a 241,000 drop in March. Wall Street analysts had expected the April unemployment

rate to climb to seven per cent and payrolls to decline hy The last time the unemploy-

ment rate fell was in May 1990, when it slipped to 5.3 per cent from 5.4 per cent.
The April improvement was a

months of rising unemployment. Employment is usually the last

area to pick up as an economy recovers from recession because businesses prefer to bave existing workers put in longer hours. But the department found in its survey of households that em-

ployment last month rose hy 644,000, with about half of those people reporting that they had choseo self-employment. In cootrast, in a separate sur-

vey of business payrolls which economists consider a more reliable iodicator of economic health, the department found a different pattern - the joh market remained weak across the

Since July 1990, when the current recession began, businesses have reduced their workforces by 1.6 million. "They are welcome news, and

But Fitzwater, asked whether the figures signalled an end to the recession, was cautious.

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had predicted naemployment

would go up," White House

spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said.

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Or send your application by Fax (No. 827350) Please include your telephone number. The salary is dependent on qualifications and experience

Kuwait to ease boycott on firms with Israeli links

companies with economic links to Israel and will urge other Gulf Arab states to do the same, the head of the customs department said

"Our country was returned to us through God's will and the Americans," said Ibrahim Al Ghanem, who as director-general of customs is responsible for enforcing the boycott. "The least we can do is to pay back some of the favour."

At the same time Kuwait is reviewing tariff agreements with Arab states which sympathised with Iraq during the Gulf crisis, Ghanem told Reuters in an interview. He did not name the countries. Jordan, Sudan and some North

African states were broadly sympathetic to Iraq during the crisis sparked by its occupation of Kuwait last August. 'The political situation of Kuwait has changed from the past," said Ghanem. "We are more integrated with Western countries and

Japan. The Damascus-based Arab Boycott Office, an organ of the 21-member Arab League, lists hundreds of firms with economic links

to Israel. League members are required to ban dealings with these companies. Ghanem said Kuwait's boycott policy would be less rigid than

before although companies with Israeli capital would still be barred.
"The boycott policy will change from the past, specifically pertaining to the Israel Boycott Office," be said. "Kuwait will take a different course regarding American, Euro-

Ghanem said those records on the boycott which were not allowed in after asserting their position and after their status has been

He said Kuwait would seek a meeting of offices coordinating the boycott from its five partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council- Saudi

Israel is a reality," one Kuwaiti official said privately this week

Survey shows British industrialists optimistic

LONDON (AP) — the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) facturing output may be leveling. but that its latest survey shows the nation's recession was more severe than expected.

The CBI, which represents major British industries, said that fewer manufacturers expected output to decline in the months ahead. But, it added, a sharp drop in output during the first quarter of the year was steeper CBI's previous survey published

The conclusions were published in the CBI's quarterly Industrial Trends Survey which covered 1,300 firms.

"The survey shows that the intensity of the downturn is slackening, and we may he approaching the turning point," said David Wigglesworth, chaitman of the CBI's economic situa-

But, he cautioned that even though the trend toward lower manufacturing output may have levelled "it is too early to speak of recovery."

The CBI said that the severity of Britain's recession during the first quarter of 1991 forced companies to hold back price increases to a level that was the lowest since the CBI started sutveying industries in 1967.

Wigglesworth said there were other bopeful signs.

"The survey shows the smallest decline in (business) confidence for two years and spending on training and innovation is holding up," he said.

The CBI warned that a sharp downturn in manufacturing output in the past year, which it estimates at more than seven per cent. suggests that it may "rake a long time" for British manufacturing sector to recover even if the downtrend is slowly reversed later this year.

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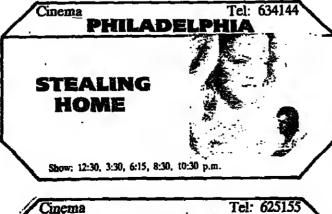
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Mahmoud Abdul Aziz ABU KARTONEH

Arabic



TEMPLE OF DOOM

RAINBOW

Show: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

U.S. Congress mounts stiff opposition to new SDI plan

gress is mounting stiff opposition to President George Bush's revamped Star Wars defence plan, despite showing enthusiasm for missile attacks Iraq launched in the Gulf war.

Orbiting astronants put defence satellites through impressive tests this week, but political and military analysts say the space weapons programme still faces daunting legislative hurdles. The first votes on the revised

Strategie Defence Initiative (SDI) are due next week, when the House Armed Services Committee acts on Bush's \$278 billion defence request for next year, which would provide \$5.2 billion for SDL

Defence Committee chairmen say Congress might oppose the deployment of any U.S. antimissile defences by the year 2000, even if space weapons are drop-

"I don't believe there's yet a consensus in Congress for deploying ground-based defences for the United States." House Armed Services Chairman Les

"But we should support research and development that will give us real development options in the next several years.' In the days before the vote, the

space shuttle Discovery has been running tests on satellites which would detect enemy missiles. heading for the United States and alert ground or space weapons to seek and destory them. Using a research satellite, the

shuttle has been trying to determine how to identify the exhaust plumes of enemy missile against the images produced by other lights in space.

Defence officials say that if the Star Wars system works, six sites could defend all U.S. cities from a limited nuclear missile attack from a small country or from an accidental firing from within the Soviet Union.

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Bush's plan envisages developing better "anti-missile missiles," like the Patriot used against the Scuds during the Gulf conflict, to intercept rockets fired at U.S. or allied troops in a ground war. Congress is expected to approve. Congress is less likely to act on

deploying 750 ground-based missiles at six sites nationwide by the year 2000. Bush's third step would be to build a thousand "brilliant peb-

the next step - research on

ble" rockets to orbit the Earth and defend U.S. and altied cities against an attack by up to 200 After years of Congress opposition, Bush last January

ordered the Defence Department That means the House Armed to focus research on limited de-Services Committee will approve fence rather than against a masabout \$3.9 billion for Star Wars. sive Soviet nuclear attack. more than last year's three billion well short of the 5.2 billion Bush

Aspin, a Wisconsin Democrat, said in a speech the limited de-

free from jail after quake in S. Union fence plan made sense, adding that Iraq's use of Scud missiles could be a harbinger of a time

Prisoners^{*}

MOSCOW (AP) - Police searched Saturday for nearly 100 prisoners who escaped after guards let them out of their cells fearing the prison near the centre of Soviet Georgia's earthquake zone would collapse.
The prison's 300 inmates were

allowed into a courtyard "for humanitarian reasons" late Friday when an aftershock shook the area, said Archil Kostava, the top administrative official in the city of Kntaisi.

Kostava said nearly 100 prisoners threatened their armed guards, who inexplicably allowed them to flee. Ten prisoners voluntarily returned overnight and police rounded up some others, be said.

Roads surrounding Kntaisi were blocked and police searched cars for the remainder, some nf whom were considered dangerous, Kostava said by telephone. Free-lance Georgian journalist Mikhail Takhelidze said the prisoners "provoked a clash" with their guards before escaping. Kutaisi residents reported hearing gunshots, he said.

A powerful earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter Scale rocked mountainous North-Central Georgia Monday, killing at least 114 people. Aftershocks throughout Friday set off landslides, killed three people and leveled three remote Caucasus mountain villages damaged by the initial tremor.

Kutaisi is the city closest to the quake zone.

The richter scale is a measure of ground motion as recorded on seismographs. Every increase of one number means a tenfold increase in magnitude. Thus a reading of 7.5 reflects an earthquake 10 times stronger than one of 6.5. A 7 reading is considered a "major" earthquake, capable of widespread heavy damage.

Soviet television news said the final toll may reach 300 dead and 1.000 miured.

TASS said the tremours measured a relatively low 3 to 4 on the Soviet 12-point scale. The U.S. National Earthquake Information Centre Colorado said the aftershocks must have measured less than 5 on the Richter Scale because its instruments could not detect them.

townships in arms search JOHANNESBURG (R) -South African police, backed up

S. Africa police swoop on

by the army, searched for weapons in black township hostels near Johannesburg Saturday in an attempt to curb spiralling violence which has killed more than 100 people in a week. Police Saturday found the

bodies of five more people in Soweto township, four of them hacked to death and the other burned, taking the week's death toll there to at least 40. The fighting, largely fuelled by a feud between supporters on

Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and those of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, has claimed some 1,500 lives around Johannesburg alone since August. Police spokesman Captain

Joseph Ngobeni said raids were made on the Jahulani and Meadowlands hostels and the Chicken Farm squatter camp in Soweto. He could give no details. Soon after midnight more than

2,000 police swooped on three bostels housing mainly Zulu migrant workers southeast of Johannesburg, and another in Alexandra township north of the city, after the army cordoned off parts

The police backed off from Wolhnter and Denver hostels when confronted by growing mobs of armed, belligerent and apparently drunk residents.

There was no way to reason and talk with the people," police spokesman Captain Engene Opperman said. "Liquor played a big role. If we had had to go in, using force, there could have been trouble."

The residents were armed with spears, wore the red headbands favoured by Inkatha supporters and chanted anti-ANC slogans.

Opperman said police confiscated a number of weapons at the other two hostels raided, including spears, sharpened iron rods and axes which were not considered part of the cultural weaponry Zulus are allowed to

The swoop followed a Friday raid on an Inkatha hostel in Soweto which has been at the centre of many of the recent clashes, and was carried out at the request of the ANC on the basis of information it had on weapons kept in hostels. Opperman said ANC repre-

sentatives supported the police

decision to avoid confrontation at Denver and Wolhuter hostels. He said the police, accused by both the ANC Inkatha of favouring the other, would probably be willing to carry out similar raids if

requested by Inkatha.

The weapons search was carried out less than a week before a Thursday deadline set by Mandela for President F.W. De Klerk to act to halt the bloodshed. Mandela has threatened to break off power-sharing talks if De Klerk fails to meet the ultimatum.

Soweto residents said Friday they still smell death in their

Relatives mourned the deaths of their loved ones and residents counted the cost of the destruction of their property as the ANC and Inkatha Freedom Party attempted to sell a peace pact to ther grassroots followers.

ANC and Inkatha signed a peace accord Thursday after intense negotiations mediated by the police to bring the carnage to

Leaders promised to sell the pact to militant supporters but the ink was hardly dry when the rival factions renewed their murderous attacks on each other.

"Our attempts to control our followers are being trustrated and foiled by these attacks. This is what I call war," said Musa Myeni, a senior Inkatha official whose house was fire-bombed Thursday.

"We still want to stretch a hand of friendship to all people con-cerned.. only a miracle could get us out of this civil war we are facing," Myeni told Renters.

"I do not think I will be able to handle all this. Who is going to raise my eight children?" asked Soweto resident Thimothy Motha, whose 36-year-old wife Sindisiwe was killed by a stray

As he spoke, some of his children were still weeping uncontrollably at the loss of their mother,

"The people who shot at this innocent woman were with the police and the police did nothing to prevent the shooting," antiapartheid leader Winnie Mandela aid Thursday after visiting the Mothas' house,

"It is better to be outside protecting yourself than being inside thinking that the police will protect you," a resident commented.

More violence erupts before Yugoslav leaders discuss unrest

lence broke out in Yugoslavia Saturday, hours before the state presidency held crisis talks on clashes between Serbs and Croats that have killed 16 people.

Croats manning a barricade outside the town of Sotin in northeastern Croatia opened fire after shots from a nearby house sent them diving for cover, a Reuter reporter on the scene said. No-one appeared to have been killed. Tensions remained high in

Croatia, where 13 Croatian police and three civilians died in gunbattles Thursday in the worst postCroats, Yugoslavia's higgest oationalities and old rivals.

Many towns were sealed off with harricades. On Saturday a bomh hlast set ahlaze the Sarajka Restaurant in Vukovar in northeastern Croatia and aoother homb demolished a Croatian butcher's shop in Dvor Na Uni in ceotral Croatia. No-one was hurt.

"It is hard to anywer the question of whether civil war has started or not ... but it is ohvious we are on the brink of chaos," the Serbian newspaper Politika said.

rising tension since free elections in the six Yugoslav republics last year unleashed old ethnic rivalries suppressed under Communist rule in the country of 23.5 million

The eight-member presidency, which can impose a state of emergency, called a special session to discuss the situation with Prime Minister Ante Markovic, his interior minister, the army's chief of staff and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman.

The presidency, the highest state body, groups representatives of the country's six republics and two previnces. The violence climaxed a year of

Armenians protest Azerbaijan deaths

MOSCOW (R) - Hundreds of thousands of people marched in the southern Soviet Republic of Armenia Saturday to mourn five people killed in oeighbouring population.

The Armenian government, Azerbaijan, Armenian officials Soviet military helicopters flew

over the crowd as it snaked behind the coffins through the Armenian capital Yerevan to two cemeteries, the officials said. The five bodies were brought

baijan, near the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh. Armenia says 36 Armenians were killed when Azerbaijani and

to Yerevan hy helicopter from

the village of Getashen, in Azer-

Soviet troops stormed Getashen and nearby Martunashen Tuesday, using tanks and heavy artillery against the mostly Armenian

which has accused Moscow of drawing it into war with Azerbaijan, declared Saturday a day of mourning and flags flew at half mast across the republic.

Anthorites in Yerevan said Azerbaijan is trying to deport Armenians, Azerbaijan says it is rooting out illegal armed groups.

The clashes followed a warning by Azerbaijan President Ayaz Mutalibov that be was losing patience with guerrilla attacks in Nagorno-Karabakh and along the border with Armenia, Hundreds of people have been killed in the last three years in fighting over Nagorno-Karabakh, an enclave in Azerbaijan claimed by both republics. It is populated mostly by Armenians but administered by Azerbaijan.

The Armenian News Agency Snark, said Getashen was still surrounded by troops and Martinnashen had been razed.

Mutalibov and Armenia's President Levon Ter-Petrosyan met Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Friday to try to defuse the dispute, an Armenian spokesman said. Few details have emerged from the talks.

Dallas ends with a cliffhanger

DALLAS Texas (R) - The soap opera Dallas, which perfected the nail-biting, cliffhanger format for television, ended Friday true to style, leaving viewers to decide whether villian J.R. Ewing committed suicide in the final epi-

sode.
"It was kind of a weird way to go out, but I give them credit for sticking with the cliffhanger style," said Wayne Perkins, a Dallas resident wo watched the final show at a city restaurant where several sceoes for the popular series were filmed.

Dallas, which went off the air Friday with a final two-hour seg-ment, completed a 13-year, 356episode run that was second in. longevity only to the western series Gunsmoke, starring James Arness, which ran for 401 shows. The final show of Dallas was

filled with surprises, including the final scene, in which J.R. contemplates shooting himself. J.R.'s dastardly deeds and family betrayals were the central theme of the series, but the script of the final show was kept secret.

Putting a hlack-humour spin on Frank Capra's film "It's A Wonderful Life, a supernatural being, which turns out to be a devil instead of an angel, urges J.R. to kill himself after two hours or showing what life would have been like if J.R. had never been born.

J.R. is seen raising a handgun towards his face. The sound of a gunshot rings out and J.R.'s brother Bobby rushes into J.R.'s. hedroom. Bobby gasps and cameras show a close-up of him looking aghast at the floor. Then the show ends - without reveal-

ing J.R.'s condition.
"Well, they can certainly bring this show back alive if they want to," said Carla Charles, another longtime Dallas fan who said she had videotaped every episode. "But I expect it will only be. around in re-runs."

Dallas was the top-rated series for three years from 1980 and was still in the top 10 as recently as

The final episode of the 1980



'Larry Hagman played the part of the star villain, J.R. Ewing, in Dallas (file Phot) season perfected the television and now sells souvenirs from a

eliffhanger with the apparent shouting of J.R. For the next six months, people

around the world wondered "who shot J.R.?" When the show resumed on

Nov. 21, 1980, 300 million people in 65 countries tuned in to learn the answer. It was the mostwatched episode in U.S. television history up to that time. surpassed later only by the final episode of M.A.S.H.

More than 2,000 people. gathered about 20 miles (32 kilometres) northeast of central Dallas at Southfork Ranch Friday, where most of the show's outdoor scenes were filmed.

Promoters of Southfork as a tourist attraction say they believe

visitors will come for years.

They want to see the birthplace of all J.R.'s evil plots," said J.R. Duncan, who built the ranch trailer parked nearby.

Texas Governor. Richards signed a proclamation bonouring the show in Austin Friday, saying that because of it "Texas belt huckles, boots, hats and jeans are known all around the world."

Dallas City officials said the show did much to eod the city's notoriety as the place where popular President John Kennedy ras assassinated.

"People around the world now think of Dallas as a place of rich people and cadillacs, not assassaid Doris Hayworth.

The show, which was produced by Lorimar Studios in Burbank. California. and aired by CBS, was cancelled because of falling ratings. It had slipped to 60th place among the 136 television series aired during the current

Britain's Labour ahead

Poll shows

LONDON (Agencies) - British Prime Minister Joho Mainr, bruised after massive Conservative losses in local elections, received a further blow Saturday when an opinion poll showed the opposition Labour party in the

when a small country fires long-

range missiles at the United

He said instability in the Soviet

Union might also trigger the un-

thinkable - a limited Soviet

could respond to a deployment of

U.S. space weapons by scrapping

any U.S.-Soviet strategic arms

reduction treaty signed in the

future, and deploy an array of

So many in Congress feel the

best strategy is to proceed only

with research, reserving the op-

tion of actual deployment should

mobile ondear missiles

any threat emerge.

The ICM survey published in the Daily Express newspaper gave Labour a two-point national lead over the ruling Conserva-

The poll, carried out Friday after millions of Britions voted for local councils, showed Labour with 40 per cent electoral support, the Conservatives 38 and the centrist Liberal Democrats The Conservatives, beset by

economic problems and a rise in unemployment figures, suffered a net loss of nearly 900 council seats in elections across England and Wales. There were no elections in Scotland and London. Major called the results dis-

appointing and Conservative Party spokesman indicated that a June general election was no ionger on the agenda. ICM interviewed a sample of 1.074 adults for the poll in 52

constituencies across Britain. Stunning opposition victorie Friday in local elections shook the Conservative Party's 12-year grip on power. **Battered Conservatives hlamed**

their trouncing in local elections on the recession and on the socalled poll tax imposed under Margaret Thatcher's govern-Major, who hastily disowned

the tax after the party dumped Mrs. Thatcher in November, said the results were "quite disappointing. "But I think there's a great

deal to look forward to. ... We are oo an upswing and they have peaked." be said in a television interview, referring to the main opposition Labour Party. At stake in the Thursday poll-

ing were seats in 369 local coun-

Author Jerzy NEW YORK (AP) - Author Jerzy Kosinski, who survived the

Nazi occupation of his native Poland and went on to write The Painted Bird and the satirical Being There, committed suicide Friday. He was 57.

His body was discovered at 9:30 a.m. (1330 GMT) in his Manhattan apartment by his wife.

Katherina von Frannhofer-Kosiaski, said police spokeswoman a officer Janice Swinney. He had a plastic hag pulled over his head and was in the bathtuh, she said.

A note was found at the scene.

"My husband had been in de-

Kosinski commits suicide serious heart condition," his wife said in a statement. "He had become depressed by his growing inability to work, and by his fear of being a burdeo to me and his

> Kosinski had been at a party Thursday night at the home of author Gay Talese, who said he "stayed late and seemed as cheer-

teriorating health as a result of a

ful and smart as ever."

Cardinal buried in Hungary after 20-year exile ESZTERGOM, Hungary (R) — The hody of Cardinal Jozsef they should return to Hungary only when the Communist era Mindszenty, arch-enemy of com-Budanest. A hlack-draped national flag, munism, was haried in his native

Hungary Saturday after an exile the Communist emblem cut from that continued after his death and its centre, hung close to the burended only with his country's nished coffin. For Huogary's Catholies. return to democracy. Church and government lead-Mindszenty's reburial in Eszterers bowed before the Hungarian gom, where he was titular primate's coffin on a hier outside archhishop for almost 30 years,

the 11th century Esztergom Basisymbolised the end of a period of lica during rites attended by suffering for their church. 60,000 Roman Catholic faithful. Mindszenty was jailed for life His remains had been brought at a Communist show trial in hack from Austria, where he died 1949, freed hriefly during the in 1975 aged 83 after instructing 1956 Budapest uprising, and then

spent 16 years in lonely asylum at the American emhassy io

His obstinate refusal to compromise with the Communist regme when the West later sought detente with East Europe caused the Vatican to order him into exile in the 1970s.

Cardinal Lazslo Paskai, the present Hungarian primate, and Prime Minister Jozsef Antall. whose centre-right government ended four decades of communism in elections last year, led the homage to Mindszenty.

S. Korean police, protesters battle in central Seoul

SEOUL (R) - Violence erupted in the heart of Seoul Saturday as hundreds of protesters calling for the overthrow of President Roh Tae-Woo fought hit-and-run battles with riot police.

Students overturned and set fire to a police vehicle in front of the Bank of Korea, South Korea's central bank, and taunted riot police with an impromptu sit-in ontside a former royal palace in the central of the

Terrified Saturday shoppers fled barrages of tear-gas and baton charges by lines of greyclad riot police. High-pressure arches from water cannons sluiced across the wide boulevards bisecting the capital.

The protesters, mostly students, dissidents and labour activists, assembled in at least three' areas in the capital and defied government orders not to march towards city hall "Overthrow Roh Tae-Woo,"

they chanted as they locked arms and moved towards the lines of helmeted riot police. In Pusan, the country's second largest city, about 10,000 demonstrators held an anti-government rally without interference from more than 2,000 watching riot

It was the first time this year protests have flared in the centre of Seoul. Both sides appeared to be acting with restraint, and some riot police looked frustrated at new rules that curb their tactics. The current series of protests

policemen beat 20-year-old student Kang Kyung-Dae to death on April 26 in a demonstration in The death has set off days of violent protests demanding Roh apologise, sack his cabinet and disband a detested plainelothes

began last weekend after five riot

pressed regret and fired the home Three studnets have set themselves on fire to protest against Kang's death. Two have died and a third is in grave condition in

riot control corps. Roh has ex-

Anglican, set himself alight that afternoon in a protest in Seoul.

Earlier, protesters approached

police lines and tossed or handed

flowers to officers. When scuffles

at Seoul station to protest against the death Friday night of Chon Se-Young. Chon, a Baptised

hospital. About 100 Anglican clergymen and followers have started a sil-in

firebombs. Witnesses said at least three separate marches began, involving fewer than 10,000 protesters. Dissident organisers had ex-

broke out, taunts and stones re-

placed the flowers. However, the

students refrained from throwing

pected hundreds of thousands of marchers. In several instances, police failed to give prior warning before firing tear-gas at protesters, as is required under new conciliatory riot control rules announced

by the government Friday. Government leaders and opposition politicians have" pleaded with the protesters to end the self-immolations that have shocked many south Korean whose Confucian society accords

a valued status to students. May has been a traditional month for radical protest in South Korea, climaxing with the emotive May 18 anniversary of the 1980 Kwangju massacre when troops killed hundreds of civilians in an uprising in the southwestern

city.
In 1987, a student's death at a demonstration sparked huge protests across Korea that eventually forced the military government to concede democratic reforms and

an open presidential election. Kang's death has galvanised South Korea's radical movement, which had been losing popular support. However, the current protests fail to approach 1987 in

either intensity or numbers. Earlier Saturday, newly appointed Home Minister Lee Sahng-Yeon further curbed the activities of the controversial plainelothes Paegoldan, or skeleton corps of riot police, whose disbanding has been demanded by protesters.

The Paegoldan operate in small groups, culling out protesters for detention and often heating

Under the new regulations, Paegoldan will be given a uniform similar to other riot police and "be stationed only when demonstrations become really violent or when radical protesters or leaders have to be caught."

Five Paegoldan have been charged by state prosecutors with beating Kang with iron bars after be was cornered trying to run away from advancing riot police.

The five have been charged with homicide. They told prosecutors they were only following

Sudan sets blood money in cash **Instead of Cameis**

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan says murderers can pay compensation to relatives of their victims in cash rather than camels - in short supply in the drought-hit country. Chief Justice Jalal Ali Lufti issued a circular setting the amount of blood money at 200,000 Sudanese pounds (\$44,000), Khartoum's Al Sudan Al Hadith newspaper reported. Islamic Sharia Law, which came into effect on March 22, sets Diya - the compensation paid to the family of murder victims — at 100 camels. But a judge said that because of a shortage of camels, Islamic jurists had decided that Diya could be paid in money. The chief justice issued his circular after forming a committee to assess the Diya value of a camel. Al Sudan Al Hadith said criminal courts could send a convicted murderer to jail even after he has paid Diya ordered by a civil court. It did not give the prison term stipulated in the law.

Japanese torpedo found at Pearl Harbour

PEARL HARBOUR, Hawaii (R) — A Japanese aerial torpedo containing 600 pounds (270 kg) of high explosives, presumably dropped during the Japanese attack on Pearl harbour nearly 50 years ago, has been dredged up in the Harbour, U.S. naval officials said Friday. The harbour was closed to tourist boats after the torpedo was discovered and naval experts will blow up the missile at sea. The torpedo was found in a scoop of muck dredged up by a private contractor's vessel near Ford Island, in the harbour, and a few hundred metres from the U.S.S. Arizona memorial, a shrine over the battleship sunk in the air attack. The Pearl Harbour attack on Dec. 7, 1941, killed 300 U.S. servicemen, sank or badly damaged 18 warships and destroyed 188 planes. Americans shot down 29 Japanese planes and the United States declared war on Japan the following day, Naval weapon experts said the torpedo had deteriorated so much any attempt to disarm it and keep it as a museum exhibit would be dangerous.

Doctors remove glant ovarian cyst

BALTIMORE (AP) - doctors at Johns Hopkins Hospital removed a 180-pound (81kilogramme) ovarian cyst from a 40-year-old West Virginia woman, a hospital spokeswoman said. The patient was in guarded but stable condition Friday, said hospital spokeswoman Meg Kabis. Thursday's 10-hour operation was led by Dr. John Currie. director of gynecologic oncology at Hopkins. 'That is abnormally, abnormally abnormal," said Dr. Raymond Kaufman, chairman of the Obstetrics-Gynecology Department of Baylor College of Medicine in Madison, Texas. That's a rarity." There are different types of ovarian cysts, but unless the patient is extremely obese, most can be detected with a pelvic exam when they are 3 or centimetres in diametre and "a couple of grams" in weight, he said. Hopkins officials would not release further information about the patient or her weight because she was recovering and they were unable to get her consent.

Britons urged to battle EC to keep their crisps spicy

LONDON (R) - Britons are

gnashing their teeth over a European Community (EC) rule that could drive their favourite snack. the potato crisp, into extinction. The wafer-thin slices of fried potato with added flavours from prawn to what is said to be hedgehog — are staple fare m British pubs. A draft EC directive forgot to include them in a list of foods to which artificial flavours may be added and makers fearing a ban sought urgent talks with the government. The jingoistic topselling Sun newspaper took aim at Germany's Martin Bangemann, the EC industry commissioner who rejected pleas last week to hitch crisps and other suack foods on to the end of that list. "Come on, you sun crisp lovers, and show the sour Kraut what he is missing," cried the Sun, printing Bangemann's address and urging readers to mail him packets of the delicacies. The directive becomes law if it wins support from a majority of the 12 EC states. Diplomats in Brussels said Britain would be isolated in a fight to save the criso.

